

DAILY REPORT

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VOL REPORTS ATTACKS ON WALID JUNBLATT, MUHSIN IBRAHIM

NC151608 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 15 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Diplomatic sources said today that Mr Walid Junblatt and Muhsin Ibrahim were subjected to an assassination attempt last Sunday when fire was opened on their car.

Last Friday, two assassination attempts were revealed against Muhsin Ibrahim. The attempt involved the parking of a booby-trapped car outside his house. Mr Dany Sham'un mentioned these two attempts in a statement he made shortly after the attempt on the life of Camille Sham'un.

AL-MUSTAQBAL: U.S. WILLING TO HOLD DIALOG WITH PLO

JN141816 Doha QNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Paris, 14 March--Citing Arab diplomatic sources, the Paris-based magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL reports today that Washington has told some Arab capitals that it is prepared to conduct a dialog with the PLO. Washington, however, proposed an indirect dialog during the first stage, through Arab or European parties.

The magazine adds that it is almost certain now that the European countries will present a draft resolution to the Security Council complementing Resolution No 242. The draft resolution will deal with the Palestinian people's rights following the Egyptian-Israeli talks.

The magazine points out that contacts will take place between the French Government and the PLO during the next stage, in order to overcome the obstacles that emerged during previous contacts on Lebanese-Palestinian relations.

It is to be recalled that France asked the PLO to end its military presence in southern Lebanon as a step in solving the Lebanese problem. The PLO, however, rejected the proposal.

VOP REPORTS 16 MAR WALID JUNBLATT SPEECH

NC161745 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Walid Junblatt 16 March speech on occasion of Kamal Junblatt Day--read by announcer]

[Excerpt] While the signs of a political solution [in Lebanon] are looming on the horizon, this does not mean that the causes of the eruptions that occurred 5 years ago have been eradicated. The causes of these eruptions created by the Lebanese Front still exist, and the Lebanese Front is still making pacts with the Zionist enemy and going hand in hand with it. The Lebanese Front wants to exploit events to embroil the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national and progressive movement in marginal conflicts--far away from our main struggle with the Zionist enemy.

Should we get any tangible evidence and objective conditions indicating that the Lebanese Front has renounced its dubious policy; and should we become convinced that this front has abandoned its relations with Israel and that it intends to honor the Palestinian people's rights and their right to struggle for their return to their usurped lands--then we would assert that there are indications of a real political solution. Until such an atmosphere comes to pass, we will retain our weapons and guns because they are the biggest guarantor of our being and existence.

If need be, our weapons will be directed against the suspicious cells in our national terrain. We can distinguish between those who are fighting with us in the same trench and those who are lying in wait--such as those traditional leaderships which are trying to resume their role of sabotage in our country so as to serve their selfish goals and interests.

Thus, we demand that the government draw distinctions and take matters into consideration until the aforementioned objective conditions and tangible evidence become crystallized. The first of these conditions is that the army must be rebuilt for the sake of all Lebanon because the unity of this army means the unity of this country. Those who are in charge of this institution must nurture the army and teach it to work for the national interest and to stand in one trench together with the Palestinian resistance. Therefore, we demand the revival of the army and the other institutions foremost of which is the legislative umbrella; namely, the parliament. This step should be carried out after changing the elections' law.

Long live the National Movement; long live the peace-loving forces--foremost among which are the socialist bloc countries led by the Soviet Union--the friend of the people!

'ARAFAT RECEIVES LETTER FROM SOVIET LEADERS

NC160607 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman brother Abu 'Ammar last night received the Soviet ambassador in Beirut, Comrade Aleksandr Soldatov. The meeting was attended by Fatah Central Committee member Abu Jihad. Comrade Soldatov handed brother Abu 'Ammar an important letter from the Soviet leaders pertaining to the Palestinian issue.

FATAH'S ABU IYAD WARNS OF DANGER OF SYRIAN CIVIL WAR

LD160915 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0729 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 16 March--In a press interview published here today, Salah Khalaf, member of the Central Committee of the largest Palestine resistance group, Fatah, has discounted the likelihood of a military coup against the regime of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, saying that the current disturbances and acts of anarchy in Syria are designed to bring about a sectarian war there.

In the second part of his interview with Kuwait's AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, Khalaf said that "the structure of the Syrian Army and current conditions in Syria" do not permit staging a coup. However, Khalaf did not attempt to elaborate on this.

But he warned that those "who are plotting sedition in Syria are seeking to embroil it in a grinding war." He accused the Camp David parties--Egypt, Israel and the United States--of plotting to create disturbances against the Syrian regime.

Khalaf also accused the rightist Lebanese Phalangist party and Israel of training elements of the Muslim Brotherhood, whom Syria has blamed for all the assassinations and disturbances that have taken place. He warned that "the whole of the Arab world will collapse if Syria were to fall."

Khalaf praised Syria's relations with the PLO, which he described as "strategie and good and which should continue thus." He also said that Syria's stand on the Middle East crisis "is a principled one which it will never abandon, and it is a position based on the rejection of all capitulationist solutions."

Khalaf warned that an outbreak of civil war in Syria "will push the Palestine question back a century and will lead to the creation of statelets which will help Israel to consolidate itself."

Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, also denounced Japan's attitude toward the Palestine question, describing it as disgraceful. Japanese policy, he said, "is as changeable as a chameleon and Japan tries to seek pity when its stand is one of the worst."

He added that Japan pursued a policy of "cheap bargaining" when it stipulated as a condition for extending an official invitation to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to visit Japan that the Arab oil-producing countries agree to increase their oil exports to Japan.

Abu Iyad called on the Arab states to take a more firm political stand against Japan, saying that the Japanese will lose much of their interests in the Middle East "because of their non-positive stands toward the Palestine question in particular, and that the Japanese confine their dealings with the Arab states to buying Arab oil and exporting some Japanese products to these states."

Khalaf expressed his hope that Libya and the PLO will be able to overcome the differences that developed between them toward the end of last year and affirmed that the PLO will stand by Libya if it is exposed to any threat from the regime of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat, "because we believe that the real danger lies in As-Sadat and the Israeli-American alliance."

Khalaf said that he does not know why the economic boycott measures imposed by the Arab summit conference of Baghdad in November 1978 against the As-Sadat regime have not been implemented. But he warned that "should the Arab states continue to cooperate with Egypt, they will have to pay the price of this in the future because As-Sadat wants to create a psychological breakdown in the Arab countries."

On the PLO's relations with the Iranian Revolution, Khalaf said that they were "strong, good and solid." But he pointed out that the PLO had asked Iran not to rush to send Iranian volunteers to Lebanon "so as not to give Israel and the United States a pretext to interfere in Lebanon."

KHALAF: EUROPE STILL UNDER U.S. INFLUENCE

ID151140 Kuwait KUNA in English 1001 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, March 15 (KUNA)--A prominent Palestinian leader Saturday ruled out the possibility of establishing a Palestinian state soon and stressed that Palestinians will continue their military and political struggle to make their case heard all over the world.

Salah Khalaf, Yasir 'Arafat's second in command in the mainstream guerrilla organization of Fatah, told AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM newspaper he does not expect European initiatives on the Middle East crisis to yield much fruit because, he said, certain European countries like Britain and West Germany, are still under the American influence.

Khalaf, code-named Abu Iyad, accused Europeans of blackmailing the Arabs to obtain further economic gains, but he welcomed the recent French stand which President Giscard d'Estaing announced during his recent tour in the Arabian Gulf recognizing the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

The Palestinian leader said there are some European countries that are still under the American umbrella and cannot adopt an independent stand on the Middle East. "But France is trying to get rid of the American tutelage and we should encourage this trend," he asserted. He warned against pinning too many hopes on the Europeans.

Abu Iyad, who is here on a private visit, said it was a coincidence that he came to Kuwait during d'Estaing's visit, but added that his talks with Kuwaiti officials had helped in formulating the French-Kuwaiti joint communique which called for tackling the Palestinian cause as a problem of a people having the right to self-determination and not as a problem of refugees.

On the American stand on the Palestinian issue, Khalaf described President Jimmy Carter as the worst President who ever came to the White House. He, however, paid tribute to late President Eisenhower.

He charged that all American administrations have been competing since 1948 in showing their biased policy toward Israel. "The existence of Israel is in America's interest and is being used as an advance base to serve American plans in this region", he said.

He added that various American presidents had differed in one way or another in showing their commitment to Israel, "but President Carter is one of the few who is in the habit of retreating from stands he takes on the Middle East conflict. This contradiction and continuous retraction by Carter is a challenge to the Arabs and could never happen had we been a united entity".

Khalaf opposed in principle that the U.S. should monopolise moves for settlement of the Middle East crisis and advocated inclusion of the Soviet Union in these moves which recognise the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the right to establish an independent state on their national soil.

He affirmed that the Palestinians would never follow "the submissive path" of Egypt's President Anwar as-Sadat in signing a peace treaty with Israel and said that the Palestinians would never feel tired of continuing their struggle against Israel for hundreds of years.

The Palestinian leader expressed his belief that negotiations on the Palestinian autonomy, scheduled to end on May 26, would fail because of the Palestinians' rejection of these negotiations and their insistence on having an independent state of their own.

BAHRAIN

OFFICIAL SEES POSITIVE EFFECT ON DOLLAR IN U.S. INTEREST RATE RISE

JN150810 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0700 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Manama, 15 March--Financial circles in the Arab Gulf countries are closely studying the situation resulting from the action of U.S. banks in raising the interest rate on deposits and credits to the record figure of 17.75 percent. This is to avoid any adverse effect on developmental commercial activities in these countries, because the continuation and exacerbation of this phenomenon could freeze existing and new projects as well as dry up monetary liquidity.

'Abdallah Sayf, director general of the Bahrain Monetary Agency, said in a statement to the newspaper AL-ADWA' published here today that the agency is trying to maintain a balance between the interest paid on the Bahraini dinar and the value of the U.S. dollar. He said that the U.S. action is not political, but is intended to curb the rapid growth in liquidity which has led to mounting inflation there.

'Isa Abu Rashid, assistant under secretary for economic affairs in the Bahraini Finance Ministry, said that the U.S. action will have the positive effect of improving the value of the dollar and, therefore, developing a more realistic price for the Gulf oil which is sold in U.S. dollars. Abu Rashid pointed out, however, that the U.S. action will only slightly affect Bahrain because of its limited resources compared to other Gulf states.

Nur ad-Din 'Abdallah, general manager of the National Bank of Bahrain, said that the oil countries have indirectly benefitted from the U.S. action because they sell their oil in U.S. dollars.

KUWAIT

DEFENSE MINISTER AFFIRMS DETERMINATION TO VARY WEAPONS SOURCES

LD170908 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0710 GMT 17 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 17 March--"The War With Israel Is Continuing and Will Not End Until We Accomplish Our Hopes and Realize Our Demands," Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah declared in a statement published in the Kuwait papers AL-QABAS and AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM today.

He reiterated Kuwait's rejection of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the subsequent normalization of relations between the two sides and said that all the Arab countries must increase their vigilance and preparedness to deal with any eventuality.

Replying to a question on the U.S. threat of force to protect Gulf oil supplies to the West and on other threats to the Gulf waters, the minister said: "The threats are numerous and come from various sources, but we must be on the alert." He added that threats imply sabotage through the use of force and violence. They could take the forms of an external attack or acts of subversion from within, he said. However, Shaykh as-Sabah expressed his confidence that the internal front in Kuwait "is strong, coherent and alert to all such matters."

Shaykh as-Sabah affirmed Kuwait's determination to diversify the sources of its weapons saying, "We are extremely anxious to equip our army with the most sophisticated weapons that are consistent with our strategy irrespective of their source." It is recalled that Kuwait has usually bought its weapons from the West and particularly from Britain. But last month Kuwait disclosed that it had secured ground-to-ground missiles from the USSR.

On the question of cooperation between Kuwait and other Arab Gulf countries, Shaykh as-Sabah said that there is complete coordination in this sphere stemming from their common interests and ties. "It is natural," he added, "that this coordination should also cover military matters since all the Arab armies are actually one army."

Shaykh as-Sabah affirmed that next to Iraq, Kuwait is the only other Arab Gulf country to adopt compulsory military service which might be extended to include women as well. He added that the women "are extremely important" in the draft operation. He added: "It may be said that moves toward the training of women have actually begun with the introduction of paramilitary training for girls. It is only natural that this system will shortly become the nucleus for the draft of women."

EDITORIALS ON U.S. MIDEAST POLICY, KHOMEYNI INFLUENCE ON U.S. ELECTION

LD161312 Kuwait KUNA in English 1105 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait, March 16 (KUNA)--Extracts from Kuwaiti editorials Sunday: AL-ANBA on the American policy: "The American statement which stresses that Jerusalem should remain unified and which discusses the future of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Palestinian people, can be considered a scandal for the U.S., its 'incompetent' President and Anwar as-Sadat.

"All talk about the different conceptions on Jerusalem, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights are no more than a black lie the White House had concealed to be unravelled at the time of the presidential elections when Carter will be forced to show his loyalty to Israel. Then, he could show his Israeli identity by announcing the Judaization of Jerusalem.

"All talk on autonomy is no more than cheap paper circulated by those concerned to keep the Arabs and Palestinians busy.

"Therefore, we ought to thank Carter for unravelling this paper from the file of 'Judaization of Palestine' which As-Sadat was satisfied with. We are also waiting for Carter to reveal that Israel will not withdraw even from Sinai and that the chapters of the Camp David story will remain incomplete until the Arabs realise that all talk with Washington will only lead to hell."

AL-QABAS on Khomeyni and U.S. elections: "Khomeyni will participate in the American presidential election campaign not as a candidate (of course) but as an elector. He will not personally take part in the elections but will elect by proxy. His vote will not be that of an elector but will have the power of hundreds, thousands or even millions of votes."

"Those whom Khomeyni will (deputize) to vote are the American electors themselves. He will not record his voice on cassettes in the Persian language as he had done to dethrone the shah. But he will shake and send Carter away from the White House and bring him down in the elections by exploiting the most influential 'electoral paper.' This paper is the American hostages in Tehran.

"Khomeyni is no more interested in the ex-shah. The Iranian policy aims at bringing Carter down or at least bargain with him for gains Iran would realise and which would be equal to this gains in renewing his presidency term.

"Khomeyni is not that naive to release the hostages and thus give Carter a big electoral gain in return for some nonsense to be issued by the U.N. commission that would probe the alleged crimes of the ex-shah."

PDRY

DJIBOUTI PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

LD151504 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD/EA

[Summary] Djibouti Prime Minister Gourad Hamadou Barkat arrived at Aden Airport today on an official visit to Democratic Yemen. He was received by Premier 'Ali Nasir Mohammad and other officials.

SAUDI ARABIA

SUDANESE PRESIDENT, DELEGATION ARRIVE FOR 2-DAY VISIT

LD151840 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpt] His Excellency Ja'far Numayri, the Sudanese president, this evening arrived in Jiddah for a 2-day visit to the kingdom. He was welcomed at the airport by His Royal Highness Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, the acting governor of Mecca region. The visit of the Sudanese president to the kingdom is the first leg of a tour of a number of Arab countries in the Gulf.

Meeting With Prince Fahd

LD162108 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1835 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, met with his excellency the Sudanese president Ja'far al-Numayri at 2100 today. The meeting, which was held at An-Nasiriyah Palace, was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, and Ar-Rashid at-Tahir, Sudanese vice president and foreign minister. Issues of mutual interest were discussed during the meeting.

Foreign Ministers Hold Talks

LD171100 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 17 March--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal today received Sudanese Vice President and Foreign Minister ar-Rashid at-Tahir. Discussions during the meeting, which was also attended by the Saudi ambassador to Sudan and the Sudanese ambassador to Saudi Arabia, covered cooperation between the two countries and matters of common interest.

At-Tahir is visiting Saudi Arabia as member of the delegation accompanying Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri.

DEFENSE MINISTER SAYS RELATIONS WITH YAR BECOMING STRONGER

LD160747 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0730 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Jiddah 16 March--Saudi Defense and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has affirmed that the relations between the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and the Yemeni Arab Republic were becoming stronger and more established. In a statement published in the Saudi paper AL-BILAD today, the prince states that these relations are witnessing a comprehensive development, realizing the fraternal objectives sought by both peoples.

Prince Sultan, commenting on false reports disseminated by some news agencies, says that close relations and fraternal bonds exist between the leaderships of both countries, and that these leaderships are aware of the dimensions of the aggressive designs which seek to undermine the course of complete development between the fraternal Saudi and Yemeni peoples.

OFFICIAL DEPARTS WITH MESSAGE FOR JORDANIAN KING

LD171016 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0910 GMT 17 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh, 17 March--Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Thunayyan, Foreign Ministry under secretary, left Riyadh this morning for Amman to deliver a message from King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to King Husayn of Jordan.

UAE

SOMALI PRESIDENT DEPARTS FOLLOWING VISIT 15 MAR

JN151022 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0930 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 March--Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre left here for home today following a several day visit to the UAE as part of a tour of several countries in the region. He was seen off by UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and a number of civilian and military officials.

Prior to his departure, the Somali president met with His Highness Shaykh Zayid and discussed the current Arab situation and the situation in the Horn of Africa. The meeting was attended by Shaykh Surur ibn Muhammad, head of the UAE president's office, and Osman Mohammad Jelle, head of the higher scientific research department in Somali.

YAR

FATAH LEADER SALAH KHALAF ARRIVES ON VISIT

JN151250 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpt] Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf--alias Abu Iyad--arrived in San'a' this afternoon on a visit to the YAR during which he will hold talks with government officials on the Palestine question and the current Arab situation.

Meets President

JN152157 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received at 1900 today brother Salah Khalaf--alias Abu Iyad--Patah Central Committee member and PLO Executive Committee vice chairman, who is now visiting the YAR.

Abu Iyad conveyed an oral message to President Salih from his brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman. The message deals with current Arab developments and the recent developments in the Palestinian issue.

The meeting was attended by Husayn al-Maqdami, secretary general of the higher correction committee; Sa'id al-Hakimi, vice chairman of the People's Constituent Assembly; and the director of the PLO office in San'a'.

Following the meeting, Abu Iyad told a SABA' NEWS AGENCY correspondent that during his meeting with President Salih, they discussed issues of common concern on the Arab level. He added that the viewpoints were identical regarding all issues discussed.

Abu Iyad said that what he heard from President Salih will increase the confidence of the great Yemeni people and their ability to overcome backwardness and to develop the country. He expressed the hope that this visit would help to strengthen fraternal bonds between the Yemeni people and the Palestinian revolution within the framework of pan-Arab action to serve the two peoples' interests.

Meets With Premier

JN161325 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 80 JW

[Text] Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani this morning received brother Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, Patah Central Committee member.

During the meeting, the two officials discussed the current Arab situation. Abu Iyad explained the latest developments in the Palestinian issue. The brother prime minister explained the YAR's position on the Palestinian question and reaffirmed its support for the principle of self-determination for the Arab Palestinian people, under the PLO.

The meeting was attended by brother Husayn al-Maqdami, secretary general of the higher corrective committee; brother Sa'id al-Hakimi, vice president of the People's Constituent Assembly Presidium; the chief of the political department at the Foreign Ministry; and the director of the PLO office in San'a'.

OCTOBER MAGAZINE DESCRIBES CARTER AS INDECISIVE

NC161708 Cairo DPA in Arabic 1647 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 March--In its last edition, the Egyptian OCTOBER magazine, known for its close ties with President Anwar as-Sadat, describes U.S. President Jimmy Carter as an indecisive, hesitant and weak head of state.

The magazine's chief editor, Anis Mansur, says that under the administration of Carter, the United States began the step-by-step policy and the policy of one step forward, another step in the dark and a third step in the light.

Anis Mansur praises President Carter for his role in the Camp David treaty between Egypt and Israel but says that the President has in the meantime failed to rally Arab or Western support for his foreign policy. Anis Mansur adds that Carter's "hesitant steps" led to world to lose confidence in him.

Mansur goes on that the recent argument at the UN Security Council regarding the Israeli settlements policy has cost the United States and its president the loss of the world's respect.

EGYPT MOVES TO ADVANCE PEACE TALKS

Possible Extension of Deadline

NC160920 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 March--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has said that Egypt might agree to extend the date fixed for concluding the autonomy talks beyond 26 May if tangible progress is made in the talks and no final formula is reached before that date.

In a statement published in the weekly ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine today, Dr Butrus Ghali outlined that Cairo might agree to extend the fixed date so that the proposed ideas might be finally defined.

In another statement published in the weekly AS-SIYASI, Dr Butrus Ghali said that Egypt was now considering other channels for discussions if no progress was made in the autonomy talks by the fixed date so that the talks might continue in another way through the United Nations, through holding an international conference or through returning to the Geneva conference. He said that Egypt was carefully considering such alternatives.

Ghali stressed that Egypt, despite the fundamental differences between the Egyptian and Israeli views on the Palestinian autonomy issue, could overcome the present obstacle in the issue through diplomatic action and through further activity at the United Nations and within the nonaligned movement before or after 26 May.

Answer to Burg Allegations

NC162235 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2203 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 March--Monday issue of AL-AHRAM reports that Egyptian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil has sent an urgent letter to Dr Yosef Burg, the head of the Israeli delegation to the autonomy discussions, and a copy of this letter to Ambassador Sol Linowitz, the head of the U.S. delegation to these discussions. Dr Khalil's letter is an answer to a letter which Burg had sent 2 days ago.

The paper adds that Burg in his letter tried to hold Egypt responsible for obstructing the autonomy discussions by claiming that agreement was reached at the autonomy discussions which ended in The Hague on 29 February to form two committees for legal affairs and economic affairs on the ministerial level and that Egypt has downgraded this level by appointing the director of the Legal Department [at the Foreign Ministry], Ambassador Tahir Shash, and the director of the Economic Department, Ambassador Salah 'Izzat, as the heads of these two committees. Dr Yosef Burg conveyed the same message to Ambassador Linowitz.

Dr Mustafa Khalil sent a written answer to this message to Dr Burg and sent a copy of this answer to Ambassador Sol Linowitz. In his letter, Dr Khalil emphasizes that the claim by Yosef Burg that Egypt is obstructing the autonomy discussions is not true and that Israel itself is obstructing the discussions.

In his letter, Dr Khalil adds: I asked for the formation of a security committee but you refused. Therefore, we have chosen our representatives to the meetings of the two legal and economic committees on the level of experts as was proposed. We fixed the date of the meeting and the Egyptian delegation was instructed to speed up the negotiations. Egypt is eager, as it has explained more than once, to have these negotiations end before 26 May, the date proposed for ending the negotiations and Egypt is most eager to fulfill this commitment.

Ghali Announces Diplomatic Move

NC161602 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today met with the foreign Ministry's under secretaries and departmental heads. During this meeting, Dr Ghali defined developments in the Middle East. He emphasized that Egypt will continue with the negotiations it is holding until their deadline to insure that the Palestinian people will accede to their legitimate rights.

His excellency noted that the Arab Republic of Egypt in early April will begin a diplomatic move on all levels. This move will encompass the states of Asia, Europe and Latin America.

Egypt will explain the situation in the light of the efforts which it is exerting to find a comprehensive and just peace and to recover the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

Ghali Visit to India

NC161945 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] MENA has learned that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has mapped out a plan for an intensive Egyptian diplomatic move to be made in the near future. This plan is aimed at explaining the developments of the Middle East situation and the efforts which Egypt is exerting for a comprehensive and just solution in the area. Such a solution would give absolute priority to the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to determine their own fate.

This move includes the visit which Dr Butrus Ghali will make in the first week of April to India to deliver a personal letter from President as-Sadat to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This is in addition to the fact that Egyptian diplomatic delegations at all levels will visit the Asian, Latin American, European and African states to explain the dimensions of the situation in the Middle East and Egypt's role in achieving justice in the area and in consolidating Egypt's relations with all the sisterly states.

Assembly Discusses Shamir's Statement

NC151420 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 15 Mar 80 NC

[Text] The People's Assembly resumed meeting today under Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib. Adviser Hilmi 'Abd al-Akhir, minister of state for People's Assembly affairs, stressed the government's stand rejecting the new Israeli foreign minister's statement disapproving the establishment of a Palestinian state, the return of Arab Jerusalem and a return to the 1967 borders. The People's Assembly decided to refer the matter to the Arab Affairs and Foreign Affairs Committees to quickly draw up a report.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM WRITER ATTACKS BEGIN'S POSITION ON NEGOTIATIONS

NC150853 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Mar 80 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] In an article today in the weekly newspaper AKBAR AL-YAWM, Mustafa Amin launches a strong attack on Menahem Begin, accusing him of still living with the mentality of the past and of being the true leader of the Rejectionist Front because of the colossal and superhuman efforts he has been consistently exerting to torpedo the peace agreement.

The writer says: The difference between Begin and the Rejectionist Front is that the Front speaks and shoots but does nothing while Begin speaks and does things day and night, all over the world. When peace negotiations take place between two states, each state tries to create a calm and clear atmosphere for the negotiations. Begin showers statements in the summer and thunders decisions in the spring. It seems he thinks that negotiations time is the most suitable for fighting, for duels, for quarrels and for clashes. We are now at the point where we believe that he fights while negotiating and negotiates while fighting.

If we were to review all the statements the Israeli prime minister has made since the peace initiative, we would find that they would have poisoned any atmosphere and sabotaged a thousand negotiations had it not been for Egypt's patience, its strong nerves and its belief that peace does not mean surrender and that we can liberate all our territory without firing a single bullet or losing a single martyr.

Egypt was not unnerved by the attitude of Begin, who thinks that his primary task is to create obstacles and difficulties. At a time when the world supports Egypt's views on the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, we find Begin defying the world and expropriating a large piece of Arab land in East Jerusalem--on which an Arab majority lives--to establish an Israeli settlement.-- At a time when the UN Security Council issues an unanimous resolution supporting the removal of settlements, Begin has appointed Yitzhaq Shamir as foreign minister. Shamir has announced three no's: no to the establishment of the state of Palestine; no to withdrawal to the 1967 borders; and no to the repartitioning of Jerusalem.

This means a rejection of what is being advocated by Egypt, the Palestinian people, all the Arab people and all countries throughout the world. By choosing this man in particular as foreign minister at this time, Begin appears to be placing a barbed wire fence on the path of the negotiations.

Neither Egypt nor the Arabs will lose from this intransigent position. The loser will be Israel, which will lose the cause of peace.

It is of no concern to us whether Begin remains prime minister of Israel; the election or nonelection of Mr Carter as U.S. president will not affect us. People's causes are never affected by individuals as long as the people uphold their causes, believe in their rights, and are determined to liberate every inch of their territories.

The state of Palestine will be established; Israel will withdraw to the 1967 borders; and Arab Jerusalem will return to the Arabs. The world has changed, but Mr Begin has not.

CAIRO RADIO REPORTS AS-SADAT'S ACTIVITIES 16 MARCH

NC161642 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat today received Dr 'Umar az-Zawawi, the adviser of Sultan Qabus of Oman. His excellency also received Arab League Acting Secretary General Muhammad Riyad.

The president also received an American businessmen, Mr (Pactel), president of American architecture and building consortiums.

ISRAELI DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER ARRIVES IN CAIRO

NC161047 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 March--Israeli Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori arrived in Cairo today on a 5-day visit to Egypt. He was met at the airport by Assistant Defense Minister Maj Gen Jamal as-Sayyid and Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Eliyahu Ben-Elisar.

During the visit, the Israeli deputy defense minister will have discussions with Egyptian officials and will visit some archaeological and tourist sites in Egypt.

SAUDI OFFICIAL VISITS BAGHDAD 15 MARCH

JN151138 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 March--Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayyan, Saudi Foreign Ministry under secretary, arrived here today at noon with a written message from King Khalid to President Saddam Husayn. The Saudi envoy said that the message deals with bilateral relations and consultations between the two fraternal countries for the good of the Arab and Islamic nation.

Meets Saddam Husayn

JN151821 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1755 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 March--President Saddam Husayn has received a message from Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The message deals with bilateral relations and joint consultation on Arab developments in the context of the Arab nation's interest and welfare. The message was delivered today during a meeting between President Saddam Husayn and Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayyan, Saudi Foreign Ministry under secretary.

The meeting was attended by 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council vice chairman and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad.

Departs After Delivering Message

JN152025 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 March--The personal envoy of Saudi King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to President Saddam Husayn left Baghdad tonight following a brief visit to Iraq. During the visit, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayyan, Saudi Foreign Ministry under secretary, conveyed a message to President Saddam Husayn from King Khalid related to bilateral relations and consultations between the two fraternal countries regarding all Arab developments.

RAMADAN RETURNS FROM VISITS TO ALGERIA, MOROCCO

JN141845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1835 GMT 14 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 14 March--Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, returned here this evening following a 4-day visit to Algeria and another to Morocco. Ramadan stated that he conveyed President Saddam Husayn's greetings to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and to Moroccan King Hassan II. He added that fraternal Morocco and Algeria reiterated their absolute support for President Saddam Husayn's national declaration and for the invocation of an Arab summit conference, to discuss and approve this declaration.

TRADE UNION DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR USSR

JN121350 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1250 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 12 March--A Federation of Arab Trade Unions delegation left for Moscow today on a 1-week visit to the USSR. The delegation, which is headed by member Jabbar Jasim, will discuss means of developing relations and exchanging expertise between the Arab and Soviet federations, as well as coordinating their efforts in world conferences.

KING HUSAYN ON ARAB INFLUENCE ON U.S., EUROPEAN ROLE IN MIDEAST

Nonuse of 'Economic Weight'

NC161404 Paris AFP in English 1347 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Beirut March 16 (AFP)--King Husayn of Jordan today described Lebanon as the focus of every contradiction in the modern world and expressed satisfaction that the European Community was seeking a solution to the Mideast problem.

In an interview to be published in Beirut's English-language MONDAY MORNING, the king praised French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's "courage" in officially supporting Palestinian self-determination, adding he was sure the nine European Economic Community (EEC) members would decide on a plan guaranteeing the security of "all countries" in the Middle East.

King Husayn told the paper he hoped the EEC could influence the United States in favour of the Arab world, but he regretted Arab nations had not used their economic weight to influence U.S. Mideast policy.

The king also called once again for a total Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in the 1967 Mideast war, including the "Arab city of Jerusalem," adding that the Palestinians must have the right to decide whether their future lay with Jordan alone or with any other nation.

Hopes for European Initiative

JN162037 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 16 Mar 80 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn has stated that Israel's intransigent and challenging stand leaves no scope for optimism for peace and stability in this area and in the world. Therefore, it is hoped that Europe and the international community will soon exert efforts for this objective.

In his interview with the Lebanese English-language magazine MONDAY MORNING, his majesty said that French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing's statements during his recent visit to the area do reflect the views of France and Europe on the framework of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

His majesty added that the lasting peace must be a just peace. This peace can only be realized by Israel's withdrawal from all the territories occupied in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem, and by solving the Palestinian issue with the effective participation of the Palestinians.

His Majesty King Husayn said that France will discuss the political situation in this area with the EEC. He expressed the hope that this will develop into a joint stand by the EEC to embark upon a European initiative.

His majesty expressed the hope that this initiative will influence the U.S. policy toward the Arabs. He said Europe wanted to give the Camp David process a chance despite the fact that Europe was not convinced concerning it, however. Obviously all these efforts are swiftly proceeding toward failure and will not achieve any positive results concerning the all-round peace.

His majesty said that Camp David was an incorrect means and that the United States, with all its previous offers to Israel for the sake of protecting the peace agreement between Egypt and Israel, has harmed its stand and capability of contributing to setting up an all-round peace. This is because the issue has never been one related to Egypt and Israel alone; the real and serious issue has been and still is Palestine, Jerusalem and the Palestinians' rights in Palestine.

On the attempt to amend UN Security Resolution No 242, his majesty said this attempt would perhaps lead to the drafting of a new resolution dealing with all aspects of the all-round peace, particularly those dealing with the Palestinians' rights.

His majesty said that, at a time when Israel is proceeding with changing and revoking the nature of the occupied land, the beginning of the realization of comprehensive settlement in the Middle East should not wait until the end of the U.S. presidential elections.

Alluding to the UN Security Council's resolution condemning the Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories, His Majesty King Husayn said that a resolution which has been unanimously adopted by the Security Council on a very significant issue, should be a moral commitment by all the UN Security Council members.

He added: We were shocked by the U.S. retraction concerning its vote on the resolution. This has harmed what is left of the credibility of U.S. policy in the area. This means that Washington is incapable of taking a just procedure at this particular stage in the interest of the United States and the interest of establishing a just and lasting peace and for further stability in this area. We cannot but hope that the Americans will be sincere toward the principles and concepts built by their forefathers so that they can effectively participate in the issues of justice and peace for all peoples.

His majesty expressed the conviction that the efforts for the sake of the solution in the area should be exerted by the United Nations and with the participation of the two super-powers and perhaps some of our European friends, in addition to the parties that are directly concerned in the area, including the PLO. These talks must define the peace framework in the area.

His majesty added that Israel has declared its sovereignty over all Palestine and other Arab land, particularly Arab Jerusalem. It seems that Israel will not recognize that the Palestinians have legitimate rights in their national land. Regrettably, Israel has become more stubborn. It was paid a high price for nothing. Israel has obtained U.S. commitments to support it politically and materially at a time when it continues to occupy all Palestine and other Arab land without committing itself to a full withdrawal and the recognition of all the Palestinians' rights.

On the situation in Lebanon, his majesty said: We hope that the Lebanese will handle their issues to achieve an agreement through which they can realize peace and accord in order to rebuild a strong, stabilized and united country for everyone. We in the Arab world must contribute to achieving this objective. He added: We support and we will continue to support the free, independent, advanced and strong Lebanon.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER RETURNS FROM MOROCCO

JN142028 Amman Domestic Television Service in English 2000 GMT 14 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim returned home tonight from Morocco, where he headed Jordan's delegation to the meeting of the Jerusalem Liberation Committee.

Mr al-Qasim told a Jordanian television reporter at Amman airport that the meeting adopted several resolutions on the question of Jerusalem. One of the resolutions expresses the committee's appreciation for the people's clear stand on Jerusalem.

The committee's discussions, Mr al-Qasim added, covered the recent UN Security Council condemnation of Israel's settlement policy, and France's objective stance towards the Palestinian cause.

PLO'S QADDUMI ARRIVES ON VISIT 15 MAR

JN151506 Amman JNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Ar-Ramtha, 15 March--Afruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, arrived in Amman via Ar-Ramtha this afternoon at the head of a PLO delegation on a 2-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, the delegation members will hold talks with officials on joint action to support the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied Arab territories.

In a statement to the JNA correspondent, Qaddumi expressed his pleasure over visiting Jordan and said that he will hold talks with Jordanian officials on the current issues. He pointed out that this visit comes as part of the previously agreed upon program to exchange opinions and consultations regarding the issues that concern our people and Arab nation.

The delegation comprises Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani, Mahmud 'Abbad, 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya and Muhammad Abu Hazim.

Meets King Husayn

JN151848 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, and the PLO delegation at An-Nadwah Palace today. The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim.

The two sides discussed the developments in the Palestinian issue, the various aspects of the Arab situation and Jordanian-PLO relations in the framework of solidarity and joint work. They also assessed the Palestinian situation on the international level and joint work steps to support Palestinian rights in the international arena.

CABINET MEETS 15 MARCH, APPROVES DEFENSE PLAN

NC151835 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 15 Mar 80 NC

[Text] After today's Cabinet meeting, the Cabinet secretary general, Dr 'Umar Musayki, made the following statement:

The Cabinet's discussions dealt with a draft for organizing the directorate general of the Defense Ministry, the aims of defense policy and its implementation. As a result of the debate, the Cabinet decided to approve the draft decree related to organizing the directorate general, to specify the conditions of employment therein and the powers and responsibilities of its employees. The Cabinet has also approved the defense policy as follows:

Defense policy, as stated by the principles of reconciliation published on 5 March 1980, aims at implementing Lebanon's general policy related to Lebanon's relations with foreign countries, at preserving Lebanon's independence, the unity and security of its territories, the country's sovereignty over its internationally recognized territories, at safeguarding the political system and the freedom of the public against any threat or danger or any act that is liable to paralyze the public institutions. Specifically, defense policy aims, during the current circumstances, at:

1. Resisting the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and removing any traces of it. Defense policy also aims at restoring all territories and safeguarding all parts of Lebanon against Israel's expansionist and aggressive designs and at adhering to the armistice agreement.
2. Resisting anything that is liable to harm the country's internal security. The defense policy also aims at consolidating security, and law and order all over Lebanon and at safeguarding the citizens' liberties and rights and insuring the normal functioning of the country's institutions.
3. Bolstering Lebanon's potential in all spheres by defending its issues and the Arab issues--particularly the Palestinian problem within the framework of Arab solidarity and by helping the Palestinian people attain their rights by self-determination and by continuing to reject resettlement.

The means to implement the above are inherent in the following:

1. To work for the full and correct implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions related to southern Lebanon and to allow the army to participate in this implementation in accordance with a timetable drawn up for this purpose by coordination with the UN secretary general and by intensifying the diplomatic contacts aiming at achieving this end.
2. To coordinate with the fraternal Arab countries in accordance with the joint defense pact regarding anything that has to do with the conflict with Israel. Also, to promote cooperation with sister Syria in view of the special relations between the two countries and the importance of each other's security and its influence on the other. The pre-requisites for each country's security and sovereignty and political system should also be taken into consideration.
3. To correctly implement the agreements already concluded with the PLO and to take into consideration the international resolutions related to southern Lebanon by honoring Lebanon's sovereignty over its territories and safety.

4. To procure the means needed to implement this policy and to entrust the higher defense council and the specialized organs and institutions, each within its specializations, to specify the details of the aforementioned implementations. After the meeting, President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting attended by army commander Gen Victor Khuri. The meeting discussed the defense policy which was approved by the cabinet.

Extends Deputies' Term

NC161238 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Mar 80 NC

[Excerpt] Yesterday, the cabinet decided to extend the Chamber of Deputies' term for the third time by 18 months. The term will now expire at the end of 1981.

PARTY LEADERS DISCUSS AMAL, FATAH CLASHES

NC141817 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Mar 80 NC

[Text] A meeting was held today at Dr Samir Sabbagh's residence. Participants in the meeting included Mr Walid Junblatt; secretary general of the Amal Movement, Deputy Husayn al-Husayni, the leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement--Al-Murabitun--Mr Ibrahim Qulaylat; and Abu Jihad, Hani al-Hasan and Abu al-Walid on behalf of the PLO. The meeting was also attended by Dr Albert Mansur.

The meeting discussed the security incidents that occurred yesterday in the Khaldah-Aramun area resulting in an armed clash between the Amal Movement and the Fatah Organization. The meeting lasted for about 3 hours and focused on the efforts to put an end to the incident and to limit any repercussions that could later affect the march for security and reconciliation announced by President Sarkis.

After the meeting, Dr Samir Sabbagh made the following statement on behalf of the participants: An initiative was taken by the Independent Nasirite Movement--Al-Murabitun--in coordination with the PLO and the National Movement--to hold a meeting with the leaders, of the Amal Organization. The aim of the meeting was to end, once and for all, the unpleasant incidents that have occurred.

All the participants--the leaders of the National Movement, the Amal Organization and the PLO--have denounced the incident that occurred the night before last in the Al-Awza'i area and the incident involving an attack against the residence of the secretary general of the Amal Movement, Deputy Husayn al-Husayni. The participants discussed these topics comprehensively, eschewing formalities and the traditional conciliatory gestures. The participants affirmed that it is the task of all parties to assume their full responsibilities in order to confront this important phase. Such an attitude can only be fulfilled by adopting unified, committed and organized political concepts.

The statement warned against exploiting such incidents--particularly since there are parties working to create chaos and individual actions inside and outside Lebanon. The participants have formed a committee entrusted with drawing up and executing a specific plan. The committee includes Mr Husayn al-Husayni and Mr Nabih Barri representing the Amal Movement; Dr Albert Mansur and Dr Samir Sabbagh representing the National Movement and Abu Jihad and Hani al-Hasan representing the PLO. The committee is scheduled to hold its first meeting tomorrow at 1100 at Deputy Husayn al-Husayni's residence.

MEMBER OF UN COMMISSION ON IRAN RETURNS TO DAMASCUS

JN162142 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 16 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--Dr Adib ad-Dawudi, President Hafiz al-Asad's political adviser and member of the UN fact-finding commission on Iran, returned to Damascus this evening following a 28-day mission between New York, Geneva and Tehran. The mission spent 17 days in Tehran.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Ad-Dawudi said that the first stage of the commission's work has ended and that the door is still open to accomplish the second part of its mission. He added that the commission's work had received the appreciation of the Iranian Government and UN bodies. It is not possible now, he added, to fix the date for the beginning of the second stage of this commission's mission before the end of the Iranian parliamentary elections and the meeting of the assembly which will emanate from these elections.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD, SECURITY FORCES CLASH

NC141317 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 14 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Our correspondent reports that intensive clashes took place yesterday, Thursday, between Syrian security forces and Muslim Brotherhood groups in Jisr Ash-Shughur and Sahl al-Ghab area in the Aleppo province. Army units were moved to the area by helicopters and destroyed many houses. A large number of people were killed and injured in the clashes. A state of extreme tension prevailed today in the area where the clashes took place.

Special forces units killed the director of intelligence in Aleppo, 'Adnan Mamdani, the day before yesterday, Wednesday, in Jabal (Sayyidah) suburb for refusing to carry out an order to shell the city of Aleppo with rockets. This morning, Muslim Brotherhood groups distributed pamphlets in most Syrian cities calling on the people to pay attention as the revolution will start this week. The pamphlets were seen under shop doors. Reports say about 80 heavy tanks arrived in Aleppo and were deployed in suburbs and streets.

Our correspondent says that the situation is tense today in the township of Ma'arrat an-Nu'man, 60 km south of Aleppo. Shops have been closed and tires were burned on roads. Heavy security precautions have been taken in the city of Hamat as a result of the recent clashes. Shops looked damaged by shelling and fire.

Explosions in Damascus, Aleppo

NC150720 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 15 Mar 80 NC

[Excerpt] Our correspondent reports that because of the barriers around the Syrian capital, armed men crossed a river near Damascus and exchanged gunfire with the security forces and then disappeared.

An explosion took place last night in a construction workshop near the Sheraton Hotel in the center of Damascus. Security forces rushed to the scene and clashed with gunmen, who pretended to be laborers at the workshop. According to reports from Aleppo, the city has been shut down and heavy explosions were heard during the night. Guards have been deployed around the city's mosques.

Leader Arrested

JN152023 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 15 Mar 80 JN

[Text] The security authorities were able this evening to apprehend and arrest one of the absconding criminals after exchanging fire with him. He was arrested at 1700 today on Ath-Thawrah Street in Damascus. The criminal is one of the leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood gang and the chief architect of the attempts to destroy a number of economic installations in Damascus. He also took part in a number of other criminal acts. Full details about the criminal, his identity and deeds will be broadcast when his interrogation has been completed.

During the past 2 days, security authorities in Damascus instituted a search for a number of criminals who should be brought to justice for committing crimes of armed robbery, murder and savage deeds. Security men were able to kill the murderer 'Adnan ad-Oali and to arrest murderer Mahmud Dabbanah and a number of their gang near Shaykh Ibrahim Square in the Shaykh Muhyi ad-Din Quarter.

Army Surrounds Cities

TA151914 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Ten-thousand Syrian soldiers have surrounded the city of Aleppo, the second largest city in Syria, with a steel ring. Western diplomatic sources in Beirut report that in the last 2 days, convoys of tanks, armored personnel carriers and trucks have been rushed to the northern part of Syria in an attempt to quell the riots in the city.

The cities of Hamah and Hims are also surrounded by large army units and elite Syrian commando units. At the same time, observers in Beirut note that the activation of forces on such a scale is hardly effective because the riots are in urban areas. At the end of last week, the first reports arrived on the Muslim Brotherhood's underground activities having spread to the capital of Damascus as well.

Communist Party Statement

NC170922 Paris AFP in English 0914 GMT 17 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Damascus, March 17 (AFP)--The Syrian Communist Party has called for the strengthening of relations between the Soviet Union and Syria in order to "counter American-Zionist expansionist aims in the Arab region".

In a statement published today in Damascus, the party accused the United States of having provoked the recent "bloody incidents" in Aleppo and Idlib in the north, and Hamah, central Syria, in order to "nullify gains made by the working masses and peasants, solidify the Israeli occupation of Arab territories, wipe out Palestinian resistance and loosen the bonds existing between the Arabs and the Soviet Union".

Referring to the killing of three Soviet military advisers last January in Aleppo and Hamah by members of the Muslim Brotherhood and the incendiary attacks against public buildings by what it calls "internal reactionary forces", the statement appeals to "revolutionary" workers and peasants to "intensify the struggle against American plans and interests in the Arab region."

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B WARNS OF ESCALATING SAHARAN WAR

LD131353 Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 9 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "The Bitter Fruits of Political Expansion"]

[Excerpts] The Western Sahara war took a new turn, following the commemoration of the fourth anniversary of Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR], with the fierce battles that have been raging in southern Morocco since the beginning of this month.

The Saharan Liberation Army's clash with "Az-Zillaqah" division in Oued Dra is a manifestation of this army's confidence in its combat capability and a proof of the failure of the royalist forces which are trying in vain, with the help of heavily armed units, to take the initiative from the Saharan fighters.

It is likely that this clash will signal the escalation of the Saharan Liberation Army operations that could extend to the southern part of the Western Sahara as a response to King Hassan II's visit to the town of Ad-Dakhla and as a reminder to him that this area belongs to the POLISARIO Front under the terms of the 5 August 1979 agreement with Mauritania.

This turn of events comes as a logical result of the Rabat regime's intransigence and its continued disregard for the OAU and the UN resolutions.

Through this attitude, the Rabat regime is taking on itself the historical responsibility for impeding the peace momentum and forcing the Saharan people to continue on the path of struggle and sacrifices for the sake of self-determination and independence.

The Saharan war will witness greater escalation which will certainly have adverse effects on the royalist forces and the internal situation in Morocco which is threatening an explosion at any time.

The social conditions of the Moroccan masses are deteriorating further because of the exacerbation of the economic situation and the increasing grumbling over the bitter fruits of the policy of expansion and aggression.

This potentially explosive situation, which renders Morocco likely to be a second Iran and Hassan II likely to join the deposed shah, when added to the military pressure being exerted by the Saharan fighters, could lead to the Rabat regime's being driven to the wall and to its committing new crimes that could threaten to engulf the whole area in the flames of war.

Therefore, the OAU must first and foremost take early action to support the peace process by implementing the resolutions of the wisemen's committee and to confirm its firm stand on the Saharan problem by recognizing the SDAR and enabling its people to exercise their right to self-determination and independence.

IRAQ WELCOMES MOROCCAN SUPPORT FOR ARAB 'CHARTER' IDEA

LD121015 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 29 Feb 80 pp 1, 5 LD

[MAP report: "Iraq Is Pleased With the King's Decision to Support the Pan-Arab Charter"]

[Text] Marrakesh, 29 February--On Monday morning, His Majesty King Hassan II received Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Revolution Command Council member, oil minister and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's emissary to the sovereign, at the Marrakesh royal palace.

The audience took place in the presence of his majesty the king's adviser Ahmed Reda Guedira and Iraqi Ambassador to Rabat 'Adnan Sharif ash-Shabib.

At the end of the audience, Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim made the following statement to the press:

"I had the great honor of being received by His Majesty King Hassan II to whom I conveyed a message from his brother Saddam Husayn, president of the Iraqi republic.

"I also conveyed to the sovereign the Iraqi people's greetings and good wishes for the fraternal Moroccan people's health and progress."

After expressing the hope that Moroccan-Iraqi relations will develop further to the advantage of the two fraternal peoples, the Iraqi minister stated that the message conveyed to his majesty the king "relates to President Saddam Husayn's pan-Arab charter, published on the 17th anniversary of the Ramadan revolution.

"The content of this charter," he added, "provides rapid and positive solutions to all problems and dangers facing the Arab nation.

"This charter," Mr Tayih 'Abd al-Karim explained, "also provides fundamental solutions to all disputes and dangers threatening our Arab region in the light of the conflicts between big powers, whose aim is to divide or partition it into influence zones.

"His majesty the king has shown great understanding."

"With reference to this," the Iraqi representative continued, "the Iraqi people and government led by President Saddam Husayn have been pleased with the sovereign's decision to support this charter--an initiative which has contributed to the charter's success."

"I also had an opportunity," the Iraqi minister stated, "to inform his majesty the king about Iraqi views on the convening of an extraordinary summit conference for the purpose of examining the principles of this charter, with a view to adopting decisions by which the Arab brothers would promise to abide and whose consequences for the Arab nation would be extremely good."

"The sovereign's reaction," the Iraqi emissary emphasized, "has been marked by awareness and sincerity. His majesty the king expressed approval for this proposal and stated that such an extraordinary summit should be held as soon as possible.

"The sovereign asked me to convey on his behalf the suggestion that such a conference take place in Baghdad since it is Iraq which is sponsoring it and since the present situation facilitates its playing an important role in insuring the conference's success. Iraq feels honored by his majesty the king's proposal," the Iraqi emissary concluded.

V. 17 Mar 80

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NORTH AFRICA

SUDAN

VICE PRESIDENT KHALIL RETURNS FROM VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

JN131451 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 13 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 13 March--Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, first vice president and minister of defense, returned here at 1400 today with the delegation accompanying him following a 4-day visit to Ethiopia.

Vice President Khalil and his accompanying delegation left Addis Ababa airport at 1130 today. They were seen off by Captain Fikre-Selassie, secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia.

JOINT SUDANESE-ETHIOPIAN STATEMENT ISSUED 13 MAR

JN131854 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 13 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 13 March--The Sudanese and Ethiopian sides have stressed the need to strengthen their relations of mutual understanding and good neighborliness and to work sincerely to boost their ties, in order to enable the two countries to achieve constructive cooperation for the two peoples' benefit. Both sides also agreed to abide by and to honor the principles of sovereignty, regional unity and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of the other country.

The two sides stressed the importance of expeditiously terminating existing problems between the two governments, implementing all bilateral agreements and treaties and reactivating other organs, such as the joint ministerial committee and the borders committee.

In a joint statement released simultaneously in Khartoum and Addis Ababa at 1900 today on the 4-day visit of First Vice President and Minister of Defense Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil to Ethiopia, the two sides reiterated their tenacious stand calling for a swift and all-round settlement to the Middle East problem and stressing the need for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

The two sides expressed their support for the Palestinian people's just struggle and for their right to establish an independent state in Palestine, enjoying national sovereignty. They expressed their conviction that the PLO's participation is a principal condition for establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

The two sides agreed to work jointly to render Africa, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean zones of peace.

The statement says that the two sides reviewed the situation in South Africa and expressed their satisfaction at the results of the recent elections in Zimbabwe. They declared their determination to give all possible support to the people of Zimbabwe. They urged all democratic and peace-loving countries to follow suit.

The two sides rejected the attempts by the racist Pretoria regime to set up a mock government in Namibia. They agreed to intensify their support for SWAPO, the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia, until real independence is achieved.

The following is the text of the statement:

At the invitation of Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council and commander in chief of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Army, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, first vice president and minister of defense of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, paid a friendly visit to Ethiopia 10-13 March 1980.

During his stay in Ethiopia, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil met with Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam. Vice President Khalil renewed the invitation previously extended by President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam to officially visit Sudan. The invitation was accepted, the date of the visit to be fixed during subsequent consultations.

Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil held talks with Comrade Fikre-Selassie, secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council. The talks dealt with topics related to strengthening relations between the two fraternal countries. The talks also dealt with the situation prevailing in South Africa and the Middle East.

The talks were attended on the Sudanese side by Ahmad Salim, minister of state for cooperation, commerce and supply; Mirghani Sulayman Khalil, Sudanese ambassador to Ethiopia; Maj Gen A. H. 'Abd ar-Rahman, deputy chief of staff; 'Uthman as-Sayyid, [word indistinct]; Col A.H. Ahmad Yahya, [representative] of the armed forces and 'Uthman 'Abdallah as-Sumuni, ambassador in the Foreign Ministry.

On the Ethiopian side, the talks were attended by Comrade Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council Permanent Committee and minister of defense; Lt Col (Burhanu Baye), member in charge of foreign affairs at the Provisional Military Administrative Council Permanent Committee; Col Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, minister of foreign affairs; Brig Gen Teye Tilahun, minister of interior; Col Tesfaye Wolde Selassie, minister of public and national security; Maj (Dawite Giorgis); (Tatsbu Bakla), Foreign Ministry under secretary; the Ethiopian Ambassador to Sudan; and (Awson Yasha), director of Africa and the Middle East desk at the Foreign Ministry.

Captain Fikre-Selassie briefed the distinguished guest on the tremendous victories scored by the continuous Ethiopian revolution, on the social transformations and on the gains achieved by this revolution for the Ethiopian masses, who long suffered under the oppressive and extortionist feudal regime.

The Sudanese vice president and defense minister congratulated the people and government of Ethiopia on their sincere efforts and accomplishments in establishing the basis of social transformation in their country, under the revolutionary leadership of Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam.

The vice president and defense minister also briefed Captain Fikre-Selassie on the Sudanese people's tremendous gains in the various political, economic and social fields, which have enabled the Sudanese people to complete the development and constructive plan, under the wise leadership of His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri.

The talks between the two sides were held in an atmosphere in which the highest degree of understanding and friendship prevailed, reflecting the ties of existing brotherhood between the two neighboring peoples in Sudan and Ethiopia.

The two sides stressed the need to strengthen relations, to enable the two governments to achieve constructive cooperation to the two peoples' benefit. In order to achieve this objective, both sides agreed to abide by and honor the principles of sovereignty, regional unity and nonintervention in the domestic affairs of the other country, which are compatible with the principles and objectives of the UN Charter and of the OAU.

The two sides stressed the need to put an expeditious end to all existing problems between the two governments. Accordingly, they agreed to implement all bilateral treaties and agreements and to reactivate other organs, such as the consultative ministerial committee and the borders committee. The meetings of the two governments' officials will take place at fixed dates, [word indistinct] of all matters related to safeguarding security and stability along the common borderlines. It has also been decided to convene the joint consultative ministerial committee in Khartoum on 17 April 1980, for discussion of all issues within its jurisdiction. The committee will reactivate the work and work program of the various subcommittees. In this regard, it was decided to convene the borders committee as soon as possible.

The two sides welcomed the positive successful steps that have brought about a resumption of bilateral trade relations. They expressed their intention to reactivate the trade agreement and to renew the trade protocol during future meetings of the consultative ministerial committee in Khartoum.

The two sides reviewed the situation in South Africa, expressing their complete satisfaction with the results of the recent elections in Zimbabwe. The two sides declared their determination to give all possible support to the people of Zimbabwe. They urged all democratic and peace-loving countries to follow suit. In this regard, while discussing the situation in Namibia, the two sides rejected the attempts of the racist Pretoria regime to set up a mock government in Namibia. They agreed to intensify their support for SWAPO, the legitimate and sole representative of the people of Namibia, until real independence is achieved.

In reviewing the Middle East situation, the two sides expressed their support for the just struggle of the Palestinian people, led by the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. They reiterated their tenacious stand calling for a swift and all-round settlement to the Middle East problem and stressed the need for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem. They also stressed the need to guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to establish an independent state in Palestine, enjoying national sovereignty. The two sides expressed their conviction that the PLO's participation is a principal condition for establishing just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

While considering the UN and OAU resolutions, the two sides agreed to work jointly to render Africa, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean zones of peace.

During his visit to Ethiopia, Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil laid a wreath at the monument in honor of Ethiopian heroes.

Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil and his delegation also visited the municipality of Addis Ababa, where they became acquainted with its activities, as well as with those of popular societies. They also visited the (tatic) center for military training and the sugar factory.

Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude to the people and government of Ethiopia for the warm official, popular and fraternal reception accorded him and his delegation during his visit to Addis Ababa. He also expressed his appreciation to all those who rendered his visit to Ethiopia successful and fruitful.

[Signed] Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, first vice president, defense minister and commander in chief of the Sudanese Armed Forces; and Comrade Captain Fikre-Selassie, the secretary general of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia. Addis Ababa on 13 March 1980.

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI APPOINTS MINISTERS OF STATE

JN131434 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 13 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 13 March--President Numayri issued a republican decree today appointing Dr Muhammad 'Uthman Abu Saq as minister of state at the Information Ministry; Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abd al-Wahhab as minister of state at the Ministry of Finance and National Economy; and Mirghani Muhammad Ahmad as minister of state at the Ministry of National Planning.

His excellency also issued another republican decree appointing 'Abd ar-Rahman Idris as governor of the Kurdufan province, with the rank of minister of state.

These ministers of state will take constitutional oaths before President Numayri on Saturday.

TUNISIA

COURT HEARS EVIDENCE FROM PERSONS ACCUSED OF QAFSAH ATTACK

LD161748 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Summary] The State Security Court this morning resumed questioning some of those accused in the case of the aggression against Qafsah.

The accused (Muhammad Ali an-Nawwas) said that he served a prison term in the past for a civil offense and for border infiltration. He said he went to Libya in 1974 and spent 6 months' military training at a Libyan camp where he met (Al-Marghi) in October 1979, who told him that he intended to wage an armed struggle against the Tunisian regime and that he had weapons sent in to Tunisia.

(An-Nawwas) said that he agreed to join him and that while in Libya he had contacted the Muqabarat Center [intelligence service]. He said that he led a group of four armed people in the attack on Qafsah. He said that he also went to arrest policemen.

Another accused, (Bashir al-'Idadi), said that he went to Libya early in 1972 and then to Lebanon where he met (Ahmad al-Marghi) and then returned to Tripoli. He took part in the attack on Qafsah.

Then the court heard the accused (Abd ar-Razzaq), who said he had entered Libya illegally in 1976 and met (Al-Marghi). He contacted the Libyan Embassy in Beirut and returned to Tripoli. He also went to Qafsah and was one of the attackers on the national guard center.

Another accused, it transpired, had committed a previous offense and was imprisoned in connection with a case involving state security. He last went to Libya in 1979 where he met (Al-Marghi) and others. He also attacked the police station.

LIBYAN VIOLATIONS OF ARAB LEAGUE RESOLUTION PROTESTED

LD152202 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Text] It has been learned from an informed source that the Tunisian Government recently presented a protest to the Arab League's General Secretariat. Foreign Minister Muhamed Fitouri today handed the protest to the tripartite committee set up by the Arab League Council at its special session of 27 and 28 February. The committee was entrusted with the task of implementing the resolution approved unanimously by the Arab foreign ministers after the attack on Qafsah.

As is known, that resolution provides for calling on the Tunisian and Libyan Governments to halt all campaigns against the other in all areas. Tunisia, for its part, has implemented the resolution fully. But the Libyan side, the same source points out, has not done the same, especially as regards the dirty radio campaign against Tunisia.

Furthermore, it was learned that a number of Tunisians in Libya may have been kidnapped. It is believed that a Tunisian citizen employed at the Tunisian Embassy in Tripoli may have been lost and it appears that Tunisian authorities' investigations into this matter have not come up with any results.

WESTERN SAHARA

APS: POLISARIO WAGES TWO VICTORIOUS BATTLES AGAINST MOROCCO

LD161432 Algiers APS in English 1215 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Text] SDAR (Liberated Zones), 18/3/80 (APS)--The POLISARIO Front led two victorious battles against the Moroccan troops in (Ametti) (1 to 6 March) and (N'gueb) (8 to 11 March) and besieged the Moroccan town of (Zaak) and ambushed its supply forces.

The Saharan guerrillas checked a Moroccan vast offensive codenamed "imman" (faith) and composed of 7,000 soldiers under the direct orders of Colonel Arzaz according to a document found in the command car of the colonel himself.

The operation was supervised by General Ahmed Dlimi. The document and a plan of the operation were presented to the Algerian and the international press by Mr. Mohamed Abdul 'Aziz, secretary general of the POLISARIO Front in (Ametti) (South Morocco).

"Imman" operation, which was launched on 27 Feb, was aimed at "clearing" Tizert region where POLISARIO Front guerrillas were signaled and ensure a safe supply of (the Moroccan town of) Zaak, says the document.

The plan of the operation illustrating the military strategy shows a movement of the "imman" mobile force which starts from Messeied, covers the region south of (Jebel Quarkziz) and goes east to join the 3rd regiment of (Zaak) which had to "clear" the region of (Lebouirate). So the goal of the mobile force was first to chase Saharan guerrillas from south Morocco and then to break the siege of (Zaak).

However the "imman" force was assaulted by the Saharan Liberation Army and the Moroccan troops were obliged to retreat toward (Jebel Quarkziz) leaving tens of dead behind them.

Failing to achieve the first part of their plan, the Moroccan troops gathered in (Jebel Quarkziz) and were reorganized by General Ahmed Dlimi, Colonel Major Abrouk, Colonel Arzaz and Lieutenant Colonels Kadri and Harehi, in order to implement the second part of "imman" operation, i.e. safe supply of (Zaak).

The second battle took place on 9 March in (N'gueb) where the Saharan army ambushed the Moroccan forces. It ended two days later with the defeat of the latter despite their use of sophisticated and like "Stalin's organs" and 150mm cannons. The use of such arms was confirmed by Captain Mohamed el Youssi who was captured by the Saharan army and presented to the international press. Besides, the Moroccan troops were led by their elite officers.

The document found in the command car says the F-1 force was under the orders of Lieutenant Colonel Harshi, F-2 under the orders of Chief of Battalion Mohattan and F-3 (third regiment) of (Zaak) was commanded by Chief of Battalion Said Miloudi.

Communique on Military Success

LD131452 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] A new communique issued by the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Defense Ministry says the Moroccan Royal Forces were attacked on 9, 10 and 11 March by Saharan fighters in the area of (Ghtibah), (Qummat al-Khal) and (Rghini), 60 km from (Assa), southwest of Draa. The enemy forces were exposed to violent bombardment by the Saharan fighters who inflicted heavy losses on the enemy: 659 enemy soldiers were killed and a similar number wounded; 281 military vehicles destroyed or burned including a large number of trucks; 8 tanks; and 53 guns of various types were also destroyed.

The Saharan fighters also seized large quantities of weapons and equipment, including 24 tanks and armored cars; hundreds of guns and various other pieces of equipment. They also took 180 Moroccan prisoners, including 3 officers. One is a captain; his name is Al-Busi Muhammad. The other two are first lieutenants. Faced by this drastic defeat, the royal invading forces had no alternative but to flee in the direction of Oued Draa.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT SAYS AUTONOMY POSSIBLE FOR GAZA

TA142033 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 14 Mar 80 TA

[Excerpts] An internal memorandum recently drawn up by the Israeli military government in Gaza determines that it is possible to implement a separate autonomy in the Gaza District. Our correspondent, who studied the issue this week, says that more and more powers are being transferred from military government officers to Gaza officials.

In the streets of Gaza, as well as among its leaders, one can see a positive attitude toward Egypt and the peace process. Egyptian representatives come to hold contacts with Gaza personalities, even though PLO members have been trying to thwart the attempts to implement an autonomy.

There are 40,000 dunams of state-owned land in the Gaza Strip, all of which is intended to rehabilitate refugees. It has only 500 Jewish settlers. That is why, in recent deliberations in the defense establishment regarding the implementation of autonomy in Gaza first, it was decided to allow the chambers of commerce and trade unions to operate and to publish two new dailies and a weekly. Here is a report on the processes which Gaza is currently undergoing by Rafiq Halabi.

[Begin videotape] The Egyptian brother [as heard] is now, so to speak, a broken rejectionist front comprising several mayors appointed by the Egyptian rule at the time. Al-Astal, the mayor of Khan Yunus, returned from Jordan this week, carrying 200,000 dinars from the Joint PLO-Jordan Committee. The PLO intends to thwart any rapprochement between the Egyptians and the southern towns in the strip. The center of power is the refugee camps.

Elections were not held in the Gaza Strip and there is no Democratic political life. However, there is PLO-oriented political terror. Al-Astal, a protege of the Egyptian rule, has turned his back on his sponsor and is not prepared to meet with members of the Egyptian Embassy.

To counter these trends, the Israeli military government has been taking a series of steps to establish an infrastructure for self-administration. This week, during a tour of Gaza, Maj Gen Dani Mat spoke about the Arabization of the civilian mechanism in the Gaza Strip. Dozens of Israeli employees will be transferred from their jobs. The military government has approved publication of three local newspapers, one of them by Rashad ash-Shawwa and another to proclaimed PLO-supporter Zuhayr ar-Ra'is.

The military government will approve the establishment of regional chambers of commerce as well as trade unions. It will be more liberal in handling political issues.

A confidential document prepared by the military government shows that it is possible to implement a separate autonomy in Gaza. By the way, As-Sadat seeks this, too.

The transfer of authority to the Arab directors of the bureaus weakens the power of the mayors, and not by coincidence. The [Arab] directors general of the ministries [Representations in the Gaza Strip] have been trained and nurtured by the military government. They advocate an understanding of the Israeli reality and are in favor of As-Sadat.

[Local deputy military governor of Gaza] The United States will not help and the Soviet Union will not help, because the two nations [the Israelis and the Arabs] should eliminate the fear, and this is an excellent opportunity with the help of the autonomy proposal. As I have told you, I believe there will be no [independent Palestinian] state in the near future, at least not in the next 2 or 3 years. If we succeed and an autonomy is implemented and we succeed, by having the autonomy, in convincing the Israeli people that the autonomy does not harm anything and that we are independent and neighbors, located next to each other, and there have been no problems, this will also be better for the organizations.

[Halabi] The Palestinian organizations?

[Answer] The Palestinian organizations. I see it as the best thing for them to be in contact with the autonomy [institutions].

[Halabi] Will you agree to have an Egyptian liaison center here? Will you cooperate with it?

[Local director general of Agriculture Ministry representation in the Gaza Strip] This should have taken place immediately, at the beginning of the peace negotiations.

[Question] Is there a psychological feeling of fear today among the population here?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] I will tell you: This is a political matter. I would not like to answer you. This is clearly a political issue. You are asking about a current state of affairs, not about a projection, so I cannot answer you.

[Question] But why are people afraid? What do they have to fear?

[Answer] Ask them.

[Question] Do you yourself, like them, fear?

[Answer] Sometimes I do not want to object to others. I do not want to be different from others.

[Question] Do the [Palestinian] organizations have any influence on the atmosphere in the area?

[Answer] Psychologically, yes.

[Birg Gen Yitzhaq Segev, Gaza military commander] As a result of the inhabitant of the Strip's affinity to Egypt one can feel greater responsiveness to the subject of normalization in all the spheres. In the social sphere, the psychological barrier between Israel and Egypt will be broken and the inhabitants of the Strip will be able to visit their relatives in Egypt. Economically, I would say that the strip is preparing itself today to constitute a kind of economic bridge between Israel and Egypt, and many inhabitants of the Strip are currently preparing themselves. Opening agencies on behalf of Israel and Egypt in order to serve as that economic bridge.

[Halabi] Since the normalization with Egypt began, Gaza has served as a focus of activity by all the elements who regard the city as the touchstone for what will happen in the West Bank. To repeat, there are Israeli plans; their implementation is slow to avoid local resistance and to avert precedents which might endanger the implementation of the autonomy in the West Bank. The Egyptians, too, are strengthening their status in Gaza. The PLO using political terror to maintain its status, but for the moment, there is confusion and frustration in Gaza.
[end videotape]

ISRAEL ACCUSES EGYPT, U.S. OF DRAGGING FEET ON AUTONOMY TALKS

TA161216 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Israel proposed to accelerate the autonomy talks and accuses the Egyptian and U.S. delegations of dragging their feet. This is reported by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. The head of the Israeli ministerial team [to the autonomy talks], Dr Yosef Burg, sent cables to Egyptian Prime Minister Khalil and the special U.S. Ambassador Linowitz last weekend. In his cable, Burg raised specific proposals to accelerate the pace of the talks, for a weekly meeting of the plenum and to continue the discussions of the working teams. Dr Burg suggested to initially handle the difficult problems concerning the nature and essence of the autonomy. Israel will once again demand a debate on the model of the self-administration institutions.

JERUSALEM: EXILED SOVIET GENERAL WARNS OF FURTHER INVASIONS

TA151842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Exiled Soviet General Petr Gregorenko warned that, after invading Afghanistan, the Soviets intend an attack in Europe by the year's end. Interviewed by Paris LE FIGARO, Gregorenko said that the Soviet Union intervened in Afghanistan to examine the reactions of some Western countries. As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, this is a successful act because it managed to drive a wedge among the members of the Western bloc and fool the world public. General Gregorenko compared the Soviet offensive in Afghanistan to Hitler's invasion of Czechoslovakia, saying that it might bring about World War III.

RAKAH, GDR AGREE ON INVASION OF AFGHANISTAN

TA151822 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1755 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv, 15 Mar--The RAKAH delegation headed by Deputy Secretary General Tawfiq Tubi currently visiting the GDR met with GDR President and Communist Party Secretary General Erich Honecker on Friday afternoon. The meeting lasted 2 hours. A communique issued after the meeting stated that the talk was held in a friendly atmosphere and opinions on the international and Middle East situations were exchanged, as well as on ways to strengthen the ties between the two parties. Total identity of views was expressed. The two parties expressed their high esteem for the solidarity aid extended to Afghanistan by the Soviet Union and denounced the anti-Soviet instigation conducted by the leader of the United States. Tawfiq Tubi expressed feelings of solidarity with the sister party in East Germany; Erich Honecker expressed high esteem for RAKAH in its fight for peace, rights for the laborers and equal rights for the Arab population of Israel. He emphasized that a just and stable peace in the Middle East will only be possible on the basis of an Israeli withdrawal to the 4 June, 1967 lines, granting self-determination and establishing an independent and sovereign state for the Palestinian people as well as by granting all the countries of the region, including Israel, their rights.

JERUSALEM: YUGOSLAVIA REACTS 'ANGRILY' TO BLOC CRITICISM

TA161826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Yugoslavia has angrily reacted to the recent rude attacks by the Soviet Union and its allies. The Soviet bloc countries accuse Yugoslavia of supporting the U.S. and Chinese position on Afghanistan. The Yugoslav Communist Party organ, BORBA, reacts to this accusation by stating this is a distortion and an attempt to show dissent in the ranks of the nonaligned countries.

GOVERNMENT FENCES 1,500 DUNAMS NEAR BETHLEHEM

Notices to Owners

TA162011 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The military government has begun to fence off an area of 1,500 dunams in the district of Bethlehem. The land belongs to the new settlement of Efrat and was seized about 2 months ago.

Over the weekend notices were sent to the owners of the land from the village of Al-Khidr and land preparation has begun.

Villagers to File Suit

TA162114 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2110 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Bethlehem 16 Mar--The Arabs of the village of Al-Khidr in the district of Bethlehem say that the military government recently expropriated an area of 1,500 dunams of their land in order to expand the new town of Efrat.

The residents further claim that prior to this, 2,500 dunams of their land was expropriated. The landowners intend to file suit on this matter with the High Court of Justice claiming that these lands were cultivated and in the area of the latest expropriation. There is even a large vineyard belonging to the inhabitants of the village.

PERES COMMENTS ON CONSTRUCTION OF NEGEV AIR BASES

TA160711 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2230 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Excerpt] Natanya, 15 Mar--"Had the construction of the air bases in the Negev been given to Israeli companies the state would have saved 28 billion Israeli pounds. This sum is four times as much as the sum the government saved by canceling subsidies on basic food-stuffs." This was stated by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres at the concluding meeting of the Ninth National Council of the Histadrut Youths held in Natanya today.

Peres added that handing over the construction work to foreign companies at a time when there is unemployment in Israel was a grave mistake on the part of the Likud government. According to him this is a national scandal.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER SHARON RETURNS FROM U.S.

Interview on Talks

TA142037 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 14 Mar 80 TA

[Excerpts] Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon intends to return to Washington for another round of talks with members of the administration in May, on the eve of the conclusion of the autonomy talks. This has been reported by our Washington correspondent Dan Raviv. Minister Sharon left Washington last night en route to Israel to participate in the Sunday Cabinet session. [begin videotape]

[Dan Raviv] Did you not leave room for doubt that Israel indeed intends to continue with the settlement activity?

[Sharon] I left no room for doubt. It has always been my opinion that things should be clearly presented, both the reasons and the plan; both what we have done and what we intend to do. I came to the United States armed with a detailed map, and I think I succeeded in clarifying some of the points and intentions Israel maintains, and it is good to do so even if there is no full agreement with all we do.

[Question] Do you think that after your explanation either the U.S. secretary of state or the administration will better understand [Israel's settlement plan] and there will be a chance that they will support the settlement plan?

[Answer] I do not believe they will support the settlement plan. That they understand it better is obvious. In my view it is advisable to clarify points, even if they are disputed.

[Question] Mr Sharon, in these talks, did you present the opinion of the Israeli Cabinet?

[Answer] Certainly. The settlement plan is the plan of the Israeli Government. It has been presented by the cabinet. It adopted it. This is the Israeli Cabinet's plan and I presented the Israeli Cabinet's plan. [end videotape]

Despite everything, Mr Sharon told our correspondent today that he is not retracting even one word he told the Jewish leaders in New York and that despite everything being voiced against him, he has no intention of intervening in internal U.S. affairs.

Remarks at Airport

TA161829 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon arrived back from the United States tonight and at Ben-Gurion Airport he was asked about his statements which have deeply angered some American Jewish leaders.

[Begin Sharon recording] Some American leaders objected and some American leaders, or many of them, supported. I have always emphasized for years--this is not the first time--I have been to the United States tens and tens of times in the past--I have always emphasized that Israel is not an Israeli project, Israel is a Jewish project, and as I feel that I can come to our people abroad and demand from them to do more for Israel, the same way they can come and express their point of view. I think that is their right and that would mean that we can always expect it and it doesn't mean that they can always accept what we say but they can express their views. I think it is very important that they will understand what we are doing and why we are doing it and it is very important for them to know that it is time to act against the Jewish silence that cost us very much--a lot I would say--not only in the United States. When I talked about the Jewish silence, I talked about the Jewish silence in this country here in the forties, under the British, while the majority of the Jewish leadership kept silent while Jews were exterminated. I think that if we have something that we can do now it is to avoid this, I think that I succeeded in doing it.

What I would like to tell you is that I am planning very soon to come again to the United States. I believe that this will be in about less than 2 months time from now, in order to proceed with what I would call the battle for the existence of Israel. Being there now and watching the development there I decided to come back very soon. I used always to talk. I don't believe that we have to say exactly what we think. I think we have to express our point of view. It is too serious to play games around what should be done and I am going to tell them what the developments are, what I expect them to do and the same exactly, you have to know, with Arabs when I negotiated with Egypt and I did the same with the Americans. [End recording]

MAJORITY OF ISRAELIS NOW FAVOR ALINEMENT OVER LIKUD

TA171050 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[Text] If Knesset elections were held now, the Alinement would receive 50.3 percent of the votes, which means 62 Knesset seats (it has 24.6 percent in the present Knesset, 32 seats); the Likud would receive 20.6 percent, or 26 seats (35.3 percent, 45 seats); the NRP 8 percent, or 10 seats (9.2 percent, 12 seats); Agudat Yisra'el-Po'aley Agudat Yisra'el 4.9 percent, or 6 seats (4.6 percent, 5 seats); the Revival Movement 1.3 percent, which means 2 seats; and Shay 1.4 percent, or 2 seats. These are the results of a public opinion poll conducted by Dr Mina Tzemah, the director of the Dahaf Company's research institute, for the MONITIN MONTHLY.

These results show a drop of four seats for the Likud and a rise of seven seats for the Alinement in comparison with the previous poll conducted by Dr Mina Tzemah in the middle of January.

As in the previous poll, this one also indicates that were Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman to head the Likud list, the gap between the Alinement and the Likud would be much smaller, but this time, in contrast to the January poll, the difference between the two main lists has remained quite significant. In that case the Alinement would receive 51 seats (477 in the previous poll) and the Likud 40 (45 in the previous poll).

Although the election forecast takes into account those people who are undecided, it is worth noting that there has been a certain rise in this category: from 21.5 percent in January to 26.7 percent in March.

The poll also examined the electoral potential of a new center party and revealed that there is considerable public interest in such a party. The question was: "If a center party were to be established, between the Alinement on the left and the Likud on the right, for whom would you vote?" The results show that such a list would win 17 seats in the Knesset (13.7 percent of the votes). Most of the support for such a list would come at the expense of the Alinement (10 seats) and the Likud (4 seats).

The poll also shows that since the previous poll, there has been a considerable drop in public belief in Yiga'el Hurvitz' success as finance minister. While in January, 51 percent of those interviewed believed that Hurvitz was succeeding in his post, this number dropped to 38 percent at the beginning of March. Also, the number of people who believe that Hurvitz is not succeeding as finance minister has risen from 19 to 28 percent.

The research for the "MONITIN Poll" was done by the Dahaf Company between 26 February 1980 and 11 March 1980. It included 1,227 interviewees from a representative cross-section of the Jewish population of Israel. The forecast also takes into account the vote of the minority groups.

HAMMER MAY RESIGN IF GOVERNMENT DOES NOT BACK HIS POLICY

TA151927 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Interview with Education and Culture Minister Zvulun Hammer by Correspondent on Arab Affairs David Gilbo'a at the television studios--Live]

[Excerpt] [Question] If the cabinet does not accept your position [in regard to the teachers' wage dispute and strike], will you resign?

[Answer] The attitude of the education minister to the teachers is not merely technical. He has human and spiritual ties of common work and ideals which he strives to realize which he shares with them. Therefore, just as the defense minister cannot work without the [backing of] the army headquarters and command officers; just as, perhaps, the minister of religious affairs cannot act against the rabbis, I do not think I could operate if the teachers do not feel they can function. We will have to work hard to rehabilitate the educational system, and this requires a conducive atmosphere to do so. It is not a question of pressure; it is more a question of an ability to act.

[Question] Then I gather you will resign if your position is not accepted?

[Answer] I would not like to tell the Cabinet ministers anything which might affect their considerations. I would not like to present things as a question of a crisis, but I seriously regard it as a question of ability. I do not believe I could function as the education minister if the Cabinet does not rely on me in regard to my understanding of the teachers' ability to bear the brunt in the current circumstances.

[Question] Mr Hammer, if you resign, this will no doubt create a government crisis. Do you expect the elections to be advanced in light of this?

[Answer] I am numbered among those members of the cabinet who do not want a government crisis or early elections and who believe that, for many reasons, this cabinet could recapitulate and try to fill its term, as set by the elections. However, things--which I do not want--may happen. I merely said that I, as education minister, will not be able to function if the teachers are not functioning--if the teachers are frustrated and bitter and if the education system is not operating the whole year round.

KOLLEK: LAND, CONSTRUCTION IN NEVE YA'AQOV TO COST IL30 BILLION

TA161252 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Teddy Kollek has assessed that the expropriation of land in north Jerusalem and construction on the site will cost 30 million Israeli pounds. He stated this in a special session of the Jerusalem Municipality Council which discussed the endorsement of the municipality's budget.

In the meeting Teddy Kollek leveled criticism at the government for establishing settlement at the capital's expense.

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SEEKS BUILDING IN EAST JERUSALEM

TA160804 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 16 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[Text] In the last 3 months the Prime Minister's Office has been holding negotiations with the administrators of an East Jerusalem hotel regarding renting the entire hotel to transfer the prime minister's office to permanent residence there.

Recently the negotiations became deadlocked and now the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Natityahu Shmuelevitz, is looking for a different location in East Jerusalem for the office.

Before Shmuelevitz assumed office as director general, former Director General Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar also searched. Both men were offered various sites in the Jewish Quarter as well as in buildings where government offices are already located, but they turned down the offers, claiming that the proposed buildings are already held by Jews.

DISPUTE CONTINUES OVER HEBRON SETTLEMENT

Peace Now Holds Demonstrations

TA151948 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Excerpt] This evening thousands of members of the Peace Now Movement held demonstrations in the three largest cities--Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa--in anticipation of tomorrow's [Cabinet] debate on the Hebron affair. In the demonstrations, the members of the movement demanded that the Labor Party not hold negotiations with the NRP to advance the elections.

Liberals Favor Compromise

TA151954 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1830 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Interview with Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Gid'on Pat by Political Correspondent Elimelekh Ram in the television studios on 15 March--Videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Mr Minister, what will the position of the Liberal Party ministers be tomorrow during the debate on resettling Jewish families in the houses in Hebron?

[Answer] The position of our ministers is in accordance with the decision of the party center. In principle, it is our prerogative to settle anywhere in Judaea and Samaria, but at this stage, I presume we will all vote against settling families in the old city of Hebron.

[Question] I gathered from the decision of the party center that the Cabinet will determine the timing; and if the Cabinet votes by a majority tomorrow that the timing is now, these days, what will your position be?

[Answer] If the Cabinet decides so by a majority, I assume we will accept the Cabinet's position. We do not regard this issue as a casus belli for the dissolution of the government, but I doubt the Cabinet will even discuss settling Jews [in Hebron], and if it does, we will see how the vote will be.

[Question] You are saying that you do not regard it as a casus belli. Is this decision not a very sensitive decision in the international sense?

[Answer] Definitely so, and that is why we will surely vote against settling families in the town of Hebron. I think that [besides] the fact that we have the right to settle in all the areas of Eretz Yisra'el, timing is also very important--when and where and under what circumstances. We also have the right to settle in the Galilee, but for economic constraints we have not settled all over the Galilee. Political constraints are no less important than economic constraints and that is why, in our opinion, the political constraints currently dictate that we do not hurry and settle Jewish families in the town of Hebron.

[Question] Sir, in your estimation, is there a Cabinet majority favoring settling families in Hebron at once?

[Answer] I think not. I think that if a vote is taken, there is a danger that the Cabinet will be divided in half. I do not assume the prime minister will be prepared to make such an important and serious decision with a majority of one or two.

Qiryat Arba' Residents Infuriated

TA161555 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Infuriation is prevailing in Qiryat Arba' over the fact that the Cabinet did not discuss today the issue of populating the houses in the old city of Hebron. Qiryat Arba' activists told our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh that they have recently met with Cabinet ministers and Knesset members and were promised that a positive decision on populating the houses would indeed be made today. Our correspondent has learned that groups are now organizing in Qiryat Arba' for irregular activities.

JORDAN-PLO COMMITTEE WANTS TO BUILD CITY IN SAMARIA

TA161624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The Joint Jordanian-PLO Committee wants to finance the establishment of a new Arab city in Samaria. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that a group of civil servants from the Tulkarm District have submitted a request to the military government to register a building society that will construct over 260 housing units near the township of 'Anabta in Samaria. The military government has not yet replied to the request.

Our correspondent points out that the joint committee is making a major effort to increase construction work in Judaea and Samaria in order to strengthen the Arab presence in the region.

CONSTRUCTION WORK AT W. BANK SETTLEMENT HALTED

TA160854 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 16 Mar 80 p 2 TA

[Text] Two plots of land which are privately owned by Arabs have been discovered in the area earmarked for the establishment of the Neve Zuf settlement. This discovery has astonished the planners of the new settlement and this is why the planning has stopped.

The affair rose to the surface following deforestation activity carried out by the settlers. At the time, the Nature Reserves Authority, the Nature Preservation Society, the Knesset Environmental Protection Committee and the Supreme Committee for Planning and Construction in the Judaea and Samaria military government condemned the act. The Judaea and Samaria Military Government Committee established a subcommittee a few weeks ago to examine ways to replenish the plot with trees and prevent further damage, but it has not met even once because after the existence of the private lands there was discovered there was no point in convening it until the problem was solved.

TZIPORI LEAVES FOR CAIRO; TO MEET EGYPTIAN ARMY OFFICIALS

TA160522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The deputy defense minister is leaving for Cairo this morning to confer with Egyptian Army officials and to visit arms factories. He is accompanied by Major Generals Shomron and Nativ and the director of the military industries.

ARENS COMMENTS ON UN VOTE, PEACE TREATY WITH EGYPT

TA151257 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 15 Mar 80 TA

[Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Moshe Arens interviewed by Shim'on Ayalon, time and place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] What about the situation in the United States, the U.S. vote in the Security Council and the subsequent explanation which was offered by the President of the United States?

[Answer] It has been the policy of the Carter administration to get Israel to move back to the 1967 borders on all fronts. In my mind there is little doubt about that. On the other hand, the Carter administration, President Carter, have tried to be diplomatic in the language that they use and have never really said it in so many words. The United States has relationships with Israel. There is obviously the need felt there to be careful in the words that are used and in maintaining good relationships with Israel. There are political considerations on the American home front. America is a partner to the negotiations with Egypt and, therefore, is hesitating to take an openly, very one-sided stand. However, I think the basic policy is there and it is that gap between the basic policy and the public utterances that, of course, sets the stage for the kind of mistakes that took place at the United Nations the other day--and not for the first time. We had another one with Andy Young some months ago. In other words, ambassadors or civil servants in the Department of State know what the policy is, are trying to implement it and, on occasion, slip up and say what they mean but what they really should not have said at the time and, I think, that is probably what happened.

[Question] President as-Sadat has made several remarks over the past few months, the most recent on when he said that Israel had violated the spirit of the Camp David agreement. There is talk of the Camp David deadline regarding autonomy--16 May--being tied to normalization and that if the deadline is not reached, then the relationship will take a different tone. What are your feelings about all of this?

[Answer] Well, I think it makes no sense at all because there is no truth in it to accuse Israel of violating the Camp David agreement or even the spirit of the Camp David agreement. People tend to forget that in the year since the peace agreement was signed--which followed upon the Camp David agreement--Israel has made good on a number of very far-reaching concessions that it agreed to in the agreements. These have been 9 months of Israel giving: giving up the oil wells, giving up the passes in the Sinai and giving up very large military installations and infrastructure of communications and roads throughout the Sinai. Israel is today half the size it used to be, before the peace agreement was signed. It is smaller, it is poorer, it is even weaker. So after having gone through this very painful process for Israel, meeting its obligations under the peace treaty, to talk about Israel not having met its part of the bargain or not having lived up to the wording or the spirit of the agreement I think has no bases in fact at all. What we may be saying--and this is room for concern--is that President as-Sadat may be trying to open up some options to violate the agreement or to renege on the agreement once he has gotten all the chips from Israel, namely, all of the Sinai. I can find no other explanation for this kind of statement.

AFGHANISTAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY REQUESTS U.S. DOCUMENTS ON AMIN

LD151804 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] in a memorandum has officially requested the U.S. Embassy in Kabul to fulfill its moral and humanitarian obligations toward the people of Afghanistan and place at the disposal of the DRA all the documents pertaining to the cooperation of the treacherous and criminal Amin with the CIA for the further information of the people and authorities of the DRA Government and to complete the dossiers concerning this professional murderer. The text of the memorandum is as follows:

The DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of the opportunity to express its compliments to the U.S. Embassy in Kabul and respectfully requests: As the U.S. Government is fully aware, Hafizollah Amin, this bloodthirsty imposter and great criminal of history, with the aid of his savage and usurper band, committed the greatest crimes and tragedies against the noble, free, oppressed and defenseless people of Afghanistan, the likes of which have rarely been witnessed by humanity. Amin and his band also performed various inhumane tortures upon thousands of honorable, innocent and patriotic Afghans including elderly men and women, youths, children, scholars, teachers, officials, officers, soldiers, intellectuals, craftsmen and other innocent individuals who comprise the toiling and Muslim strata of Afghanistan.

Groups of Afghan citizens were put in frightening prison cells and a great number of them were eliminated through terror, torture, live burial, and massacres. A major part of the historical, cultural, scientific and artistic riches and other national wealth of the country, which was the fruit of several thousands of years of efforts by the toiling and free people of Afghanistan, was eliminated and perished. As a result of the provocations and countless treacherous conspiracies of imperialism and international reaction, Amin endangered the freedom, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country and savagely murdered the late Nur Mohammad Taraki, the former secretary general of the party Central Committee and president of the Revolutionary Council, who was the legal head of state. Amin then usurped party and government power.

Hafizollah Amin, this traitor to the homeland, was active under the name of a student, once in 1956 and again between 1962-1964, in the role of the president of the Afghan Students Association in the United States. The relevant officials of that country have sufficient information at their disposal about his antinational and anti-Afghan activities, and are informed of his contacts and links with CIA officials and espionage centers.

At this time, after the success of the second stage of the Great Saur Revolution, when the various crimes and antinational and antipopular activities of the criminal Hafizollah Amin are being exposed, and the much suffering people of Afghanistan and all the world people are gaining greater knowledge of the true nature and the devilish character of international imperialism, the DRA Government demands the cooperation of the relevant U.S. officials and requests that they make available to the DRA Government the information and documents that they have at their disposal about the past black activities of this recognized spy for the further information of the people and relevant Afghan Government officials concerning the crimes and subversive and conspiratorial activities of this great criminal.

Similarly, in order that the criminal dossiers of this professional murderer can be completed, the DRA Government requests the relevant U.S. officials to make available to relevant Afghan authorities information and documents that exist about the murder of the late Nur Mohammad Taraki regarding the cooperation and relations of Hafizollah Amin with some U.S. circles, particularly those connected with the CIA in accordance with the wishes and legal demands of the people of Afghanistan. The DRA Government hopes that the U.S. Government, on the basis of its moral and humanitarian obligations toward the people of Afghanistan, will place the requested information and documents at the disposal of the Afghan authorities.

The DRA Foreign Ministry avails itself of this opportunity to renew its compliments. [as heard] The persecuted and oppressed people of Afghanistan seek and earnestly demand from the U.S. Government a response at the earliest opportunity to this [word indistinct] and legitimate wish of the DRA Government. The Afghan people ask the U.S. Government to make available to the government and people of Afghanistan all the documents at their disposal in connection with the criminal activities of Amin, this unparalleled professional criminal.

Amin's Connections With CIA

LD522218 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] With the victory of the liberation uprising of 27 December, which brought the national and democratic Saur Revolution in our country into its new, qualitative stage and which freed the development process of this great revolution from the restrictions of its [word indistinct] forces thanks to the patriotic sacrifices of the liberating national army of Afghanistan acting under the direct leadership of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], our noble and deprived people now recall with great hatred the dark period during which Hafizollah Amin, with the collusion of a fascist [word indistinct] band and with recourse to fraudulent and disgraceful methods of terror, [word indistinct] and conspiracy, diabolically expanded his influence within the party and government organizations and the liberating national army.

Eventually, by committing the tragic murder of Nur Mohammad Taraki, Amin usurped political power in the country, and with the (?collusion) of the world-eating international imperialism led by the criminal American imperialists and reactionary Chinese hegemonists, as well as the reactionary leadership of Pakistan, the traitor As-Sadat, Zionist Israel and regional reaction, embarked on a betrayal of the lofty aspirations of the Sawr Revolution and the implementation of the ominous plan for the dismemberment of Afghanistan. This dismemberment would have cost the lives of half a million Afghans and would have plundered and sacrificed the freedom, national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of our free and proud homeland to the ominous wishes of these foul forces.

Why was Amin, like a sworn enemy, threatening the lives of our noble people? Why was he intent on betraying the national and democratic Sawr Revolution, which was achieved with the red blood of our revolutionary strugglers? Why was he determined to betray the revolutionary process of Afghanistan and the world? The answer to these questions is that the secret of all these boundless torments, bloody tears, murders, imprisonments, forced exiles, savage and inhuman torture, persecution, and martyrdom of tens of thousands of our national religious leaders, national mass activists, workers, peasants, intellectuals, teachers, lecturers, engineers and doctors; our fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, and our sons and daughters, is hidden in [word indistinct], is a clear and evident statement. [sentence as heard]

Now there is no doubt that Amin was the mercenary servant of imperialism and international reaction, particularly U.S. imperialism. He had links of servitude with the CIA espionage organization and was placed by it at the head of the disgraceful (?council), the like of which are rarely found in the history of world progressive movements, and was placed at the head of the revolutionary movement of Afghanistan in order to inflict division, weakness and chaos upon it from within and to pave the way for its failure. These seditionist forces enabled him, notwithstanding, the facts that were known about him even during the period of [word indistinct] students movement, to continue his political life and even to join the PDPA and the country's workers' movement and inflict [word indistinct] upon it. These black forces prepared the ground for his trip to the United States under the guise of a student so that he could (?learn) technical methods for the implementation of his subsequent treacheries.

The treacherous Amin always took (?wild) pride in the fact that [words indistinct] but some years previously, the imperialist press itself revealed that a person could only become the president of the students association after he had already become a member of the black CIA organization. Moreover, there are letters from Amin which he sent to a number of Afghans from the United States in which he proudly stated that he had obtained thousands of dollars from the Asia Foundation. All [word indistinct] know that the Asia Foundation is an institution supported by the CIA.

These are all evident and undeniable facts that give a clear answer to [word indistinct] but, of course, there are details [word indistinct] which must be clarified for the people of Afghanistan and for the world.

KABUL RADIO COMMENTS ON U.S. 'IMPERIALIST PLOTS'

JN141953 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary: "Imperialism Has No Right To Make Decision For Our Country"]

[Text] The imperialist politicians whose deeds went down in history as the most savage and criminal are endeavoring, in this age of the people's emancipation and the eradication of imperialism and its agent states, to brazenly interfere in issues that are outside of their authority and beyond their rights. They try to consider themselves decision-makers about the destiny, territorial integrity and sovereignty of free states.

The desperate attempts undertaken by the rulers of Washington and their allies against free and independent Afghanistan have recently reached so great an extent that they are secretly interfering in the fate of our people and country. In order to implement their new imperialist plot, they have even resorted to blatant lies and cheap treason.

Within the series of actions performed by U.S. imperialism and its accomplices, the Chinese and the Pakistanis, it has been rumored that Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Afghan People's Democratic Party Central Committee, head of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, agreed to attend an international conference to consider an arrangement for establishing a border police force to protect the borders of Afghanistan and Pakistan, as a step toward the Soviet forces' withdrawal from Afghanistan.

For the alert person, this news report will be readily understood as a byproduct of the plots of the imperialists and their agents. It is a lie that serves the aims of the imperialists [words indistinct] on the alleged Soviet interference in Afghanistan. Let the policymakers of the Pentagon, Peking, Pakistan, other imperialist states and those states allied to them know that the brave Afghan people had the experience of direct confrontation with ancient British imperialism. Their machinations will not be able to divert the Afghan people from their path, which the people chose freely. Our people have suffered greatly from imperialist domination, but they are now completely free of slavery and [word indistinct], following the uprising of 27 December 1979. Our people are now free, dignified and are enjoying freedom. They do not care about the hue and cry raised by the imperialists, under the pretext of the so-called Soviet interference in Afghanistan. They will not care for the hostile plots and imperialist machinations against their country and their destiny.

Our people know the bitter imperialist interference only too well for they feel it in their blood. They will decide their own future and will solve their own country's problems. There is now a national and democratic regime in the country. A decision concerning Afghanistan can be made only by the people of Afghanistan and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan--a government that has the mandate of this great nation's masses.

While condemning these statements and the secret meetings of the enemies of the revolution, which have nothing to do with the will of our people, we are certain that the plots of the imperialists and their mercenaries will not shake the will of our people and country.

Interference Condemned

LD142230 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] The subversive actions and interference of bloodthirsty U.S. imperialism and its Pakistani and Chinese reactionary allies in the internal affairs of our beloved country, Afghanistan, were condemned by the soldiers and officers of the 77th unit of the air defense force and the noble people of Bibi Mahru at a meeting today. At the start of this grand meeting a few verses of the holy Koran were read, and then the air defense commander made a speech in which he exposed the black and foul faces of those who under the guise of Islam and Islamism throw stones at the path of the Saur Revolution.

The political assistant of the 77th unit and a number of elders of Bibi Mahru, on behalf of the noble people of that place, later made speeches regarding the objectives of the Great Saur Revolution and [word indistinct] of the new stage of development of the liberating Saur Revolution, expressing their full support for the party and their revolutionary government.

DOST, GROMYKO DISCUSS 'PROBLEMS' OF SOVIET PRESENCE

LD152136 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reports that Shah Mohammad Dost, the minister of foreign affairs, visited the Soviet Union on 13 and 14 March at the invitation of that country. Views were exchanged on mutual interests between Shah Mohammad Dost and His Excellency Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and minister of foreign affairs of the Soviet Union.

Among other things, the practical problems pertaining to the temporary stay of the limited Soviet military units in Afghanistan, which according to the request of the Afghan Government to assist the people and government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the repulsion of foreign aggression are staying in Afghanistan, were discussed.

Returns From USSR Visit

LD151552 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Foreign Ministry Information Department has reported that Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost, who had gone on an official and friendly visit to Moscow on 13 March at the head of a delegation--at the invitation of Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko--returned home this afternoon.

At Kabul international airport, Shah Mohammad Dost and the delegation accompanying him was received by Sa'd Mohammad Golabzoy, the interior minister; 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, the minister of information and culture; 'Abdolhadi Mokammel, the political deputy minister of foreign affairs; [name indistinct], the director of protocol of the Foreign Ministry; a number of high-ranking officials of the Foreign Ministry; His Excellency Fikryat Akhmedzhanovich Tabeyev [name as heard], the USSR ambassador to Kabul; and a number of that embassy's staff.

Another report says that the Afghan foreign minister, upon leaving the USSR, was seen off at the airport by Soviet Foreign Minister His Excellency Andrey Gromyko; a number of high-ranking officials of the Soviet Foreign Ministry; and the charge d'affairs and members of the Afghan Embassy in Moscow.

The Foreign Ministry Information Department has also reported that during the stay of Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost in Moscow, he and USSR Foreign Minister His Excellency Andrey Gromyko discussed matters of interest to the two countries: among other issues, matter pertaining to the temporary stay in DRA territory of the limited Soviet military contingents which (?have come to the DRA) at the request of the Afghan side in order to repulse foreign aggression in Afghanistan [word indistinct].

Clash With Soviet Troops

BK161535 Hong Kong AFP in English 1528 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Islamabad, 16 Mar (AFP)--Soviet and Afghan army units reportedly clashed for three hours last Wednesday in Gardez, capital of eastern Afghanistan's Paktia Province, the (?Muslim) rebel organization Hezb-e Eslami said today. A Hezb-e Eslami spokesman said the clash was reportedly the consequence of a major defeat of the two armies in a battle north of Gardez.

During this battle, which lasted four days, 4,000 Afghan soldiers using 85 armored vehicles backed up by helicopters and bombers attacked Moslem insurgents holed up in the mountains around the village of Kunduz, the spokesman said. According to Hezb-e Eslami, which gave no casualty count for the rebels, more than 250 Afghan soldiers were killed during this battle. About 20 more Afghan soldiers died from the intense cold, and discovery of their frozen bodies persuaded the attackers to retreat, the spokesman said, adding that it was upon returning to their bases that the Afghan and Soviet soldiers exchanged fire.

SECURITY AUTHORITIES ISSUE STATEMENT ON EXTERNAL ATTACKS

LD142115 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 14 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Here is a statement by the security authorities of Afghanistan:

The victory of the new stage of development of the revolution since 27 December has placed our country (?at the center) of attacks, conspiracies and ominous plans of warlike U.S. imperialism, treacherous Chinese chauvinists, the military reaction of Pakistan, and Israel, and the Arab reaction led by [word indistinct] As-Sadat. The subversive espionage networks of these countries with the cooperation of the most criminal espionage organization [words indistinct] the U.S. CIA have started a struggle [word indistinct] following their past subversive activities against the new stage of development of the revolution, against the new leadership of our party and government, and against the Soviet Union, the cordial friend of the world Muslim masses as well as the friend of the Muslim toilers of Afghanistan, And they interfere in the internal affairs of our country contrary to all accepted international norms. The international reactionary circles have started a disgraceful struggle in order to cover their inhuman crimes against the toilers of Afghanistan and its revolutionary government on the pretext of the so-called Soviet intervention.

The presence of the limited Soviet military contingent in Afghanistan, which has been at the request of the legal government of Afghanistan and its revolutionary council, to repel foreign aggressions is in full agreement with the articles of international law and the UN Charter. But Carter, this representative of the warlike U.S. circles who shamelessly shouts the slogan of defending human rights, in practice sends spies, saboteurs, criminals, thieves, and highway robbers to Afghanistan in order to trample underfoot the just rights of our people. Recent incidents and the treacherous conspiracy of 21-22 February are indicative of the blatant intervention of imperialist circles and regional reaction in the internal affairs of our country.

There is now undeniable evidence at hand that in the recent conspiracy of 21-22 February and recent subversive activities the espionage organizations of the U.S. CIA, the subversive networks of the Chinese Maoists, Pakistan, Egypt and the Arab reaction played an active role. Recently one of the agents of the subversive international espionage organizations, Zia'ddin Mahmud, a citizen of the Arab Republic of Egypt who entered the country in disguise for the purpose of subversion, terrorism, [words indistinct] and filming military centers with the help of Pakistani reaction and internal mercenaries, was arrested redhanded in Konar Province by the security forces, who are the true guardians of the national interests and peaceful life of the toilers, and was legally interrogated.

Yesterday in a television interview in the presence of foreign and Afghan correspondents Zia'ddin Mahmud exposed in his own words the ominous crimes and plans of the imperialist espionage organizations, the full version of which will be broadcast at 2100 on Kabul radio.

It is regrettable that the ruling circles of Egypt, who are traitors to the interests of the Arab people, including the Palestinian Arabs, and Anwar as-Sadat, this notorious [word indistinct] and lackey of U.S. imperialism and partner to the crimes of Israeli Zionism, instead of defending the rights of the noble Egyptian people and fraternal Palestinian Arabs against the Zionist Israeli expansionists, collaborates with world imperialism, hegemonist Chinese Chauvinism and the militarist reaction of Pakistan, through their spies and saboteurs, against the interests of the Muslim people of Afghanistan and the region, and resorts to serious provocations and [word indistinct] Against the new stage of development of the national and democratic revolution and against the legal government of Afghanistan. As-Sadat, this enemy of the world Muslims, this ally of U.S. imperialism, calls his interventions in Afghanistan a defense of Islam, whereas he himself disgracefully signs the shameful and black Camp David agreement with the Israeli Zionists and hoists the Israeli flag like a bloodstained dagger in the heart (?of Arabs) and [word indistinct]. As-Sadat, this traitor to the interests of the world Muslims, sells the residential areas of Jerusalem in accordance with the plan of U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionists and sends his spies (?to Afghanistan) on the pretext of defending Islam for subversion and violation of the true interests of the Muslims. As it is, the measures of the traitor As-Sadat are taken in defense of the enemies of Islam, that is, U.S. imperialism and Israeli Zionism, and not in defense of Islam and the pious people of Afghanistan.

Shame upon the traitor As-Sadat who conspires in collusion with Jimmy Carter and Menahem Begin against the world Muslim masses, including the Muslim people of Afghanistan! Down with the imperialist interventionists and their black collaborators who interfere in our internal affairs!

KABUL RADIO COMMENTS ON ATTEMPTED COUP IN PAKISTAN

JN141839 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Mar 80 JN

[Text] According to international news agencies and world radio stations, an attempt has been made to overthrow the military government of Pakistani President General Ziaul Haq. This attempt was the result of the Pakistani people's dissatisfaction with Ziaul Haq's rule. The news agencies add that 23 senior officers, including 3 generals, were arrested on charges of taking part in the attempt. Reports say that Gen (Tajammul Husayn) [words indistinct] was pensioned off. He was leading the attempted coup. The officers expressed their opposition to the military government of Ziaul Haq frankly. The leaders of the coup said that they must [words indistinct], which was issued by Ziaul Haq on the issue of the elections. They expressed the need for freedom for the people and also voiced the dissatisfaction of Pakistan as a whole. This dissatisfaction caused the attempted coup. Another report said that the Pakistani Government circles [word indistinct] this coup.

Political observers say that ever since taking power, Ziaul Haq has never enjoyed the support of the toiling Pakistani masses and of Pakistani political parties. Despite his repeated promises that he would hold general elections, Ziaul Haq always went back on his promises, on the pretext that the political parties were not ready for elections and other such excuses.

The facts are that the present Pakistani Government, contrary to the aspiration of that Islamic country, have reared elements that are opposed to the Afghan state. The Pakistani Government has supported ugly U.S. imperialism which is the archenemy of the toiling masses of the world. It also joined hands with Chinese chauvinism, helped protect the abhorrent Camp David agreement and [words indistinct]. All of this played a great role in increasing the present tension in Pakistan. On another level, there is a profound power struggle among the military leadership in Pakistan.

COMMENTARY STRESSES SUPPORT FOR MUSLIM PEOPLES

GF151640 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Mar 80 GF

[Unattributed commentary from BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY]

[Excerpt] The recent resolutions adopted by the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] Cabinet state that free, independent, revolutionary and heroic Afghanistan is a peace-loving and nonaligned country that is loyal and will continue to be loyal to the UN Charter, the human rights declaration and the principles of nonalignment. Afghanistan takes a heroic and steadfast stand, as part of a broad international front, in playing an effective role alongside the forces of peace, detente, freedom, independence, democracy and progress to defend the rights and freedoms of all the toiling and Muslim masses in the just struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism, Zionism, racism, apartheid and other forces led by U.S. imperialism, Chinese chauvinism and the dark reactionaries in the region.

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Afghanistan genuinely seeks to strengthen its friendly relations with its two neighbouring countries, Iran and Pakistan, and with all Muslim countries. Afghanistan intends to send good will delegations to friendly countries and will welcome delegations from these countries.

This cabinet resolution once again demonstrates Afghanistan's pure aspirations and intentions that are free of hostility toward all peoples.

The DRA has struggled and is struggling, in accordance with the principles of Islam, alongside other progressive Muslim states against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism and reaction. The honorable people of Afghanistan and its revolutionary government have declared their support for the Muslim Arab peoples. The people and Government of Afghanistan have sincerely supported the Palestinian people's national and constant struggle, denounced Israel's repeated inhuman aggressions against the oppressed Muslim Lebanese people and championed Iran's Islamic Revolution. Independent Afghanistan supports the progressive Muslim countries in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism and Zionism. No one can create any division among these countries.

The progressive Muslim countries are fully aware of who their friends and enemies are. They know that greedy imperialism, led by the United States, avariciously covets the Arab countries' national interests--such as the oil in the Gulf--and impudently considers these areas within its national interests.

U.S. imperialism, with the assistance of its agent regime in the Philippines, is killing Muslims in that country. It has also adopted an inhuman stand toward the struggling Palestinian people.

The Muslim countries must ask, who burned down the Al-Aqsa Mosque, who is ruling Jerusalem now and who concocted the capitulatory Camp David conspiracy?

Imperialism has now donned a new garb, but is resorting to its same old tactics in attempting to arouse the fraternal Muslim countries' suspicions against the DRA. Imperialism is seeking to exploit the recent events in Afghanistan in order to activate its warships.

The cabinet's recent foreign policy resolution was a fatal blow to the ugly face of imperialism. Just as the grass cannot stop a flood, no power can remove us from the ranks of peace, friendship and fraternity with the fraternal Muslim countries and with the peace-loving countries of the world.

KABUL CALM, RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON MOVEMENTS OF FOREIGNERS

BKL51619 Hong Kong AFP in English 1511 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[By Alain Faudeux]

[Text] Islamabad, Afghanistan, 15 Mar (AFP)--It has become almost impossible for foreigners to leave Kabul, diplomatic sources here said today. "The city is calm," according to the sources, "but new restrictions have been put on movements by foreigners who come from non-communist countries." Guards stationed at the city's exits have been ordered to send back any foreign diplomats, or the few foreign families in Kabul, if they try to leave the city.

The new restrictions coincide with a Radio Kabul announcement of the arrest of an Egyptian in northeast Afghanistan's Konarha Province, where Soviet troops are on a constant hunt for rebels. The bulletin said that the Egyptian, Zia'ddin, confessed that he had been sent to Afghanistan to train rebels, and that he had come from Kuwait.

The radio also reported the arrest of two Americans and six Pakistanis accused of spying or of acting as military advisors, and added that there were Chinese instructors among the rebel forces.

Spokesmen for rebel troops in Peshawar told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today that they had never heard of Mr. Zia'uddin and that they had no need for instructors. Observers tried in vain to find out if the Egyptian, who was arrested in a combat zone, was one of the many journalists who had entered Afghanistan during the past few weeks with help from the rebels.

One rebel group claimed that the arrest was part of a reprisal against Egypt for broadcasting daily condemnations of Premier Babrak Karmal's Soviet-supported regime. The group said that the broadcasts, in Farsi and Pashtu, have been heard for the past three weeks between 9 and 11 p.m.

There were no reports today on the military situation in the frontier provinces, but recently arrived refugees said that things were very difficult for the rebels who--since tension has increased--can only move about at night. Hundreds of refugees, mostly women who cannot manage to swim across the Kunar River, are trapped in combat areas under aerial bombardment.

The new alliance of five rebel movements is negotiating to choose a president, and announcements have been made several times to the effect that two or three more days are needed to amend the text of the alliance's charter so that the election may go ahead.

Informed sources said that the recent return from exile of an Afghan who had been imprisoned by the Daud regime is a sign that the choice has been made. They hope that election of 35-year-old Dr. Swiaf, a Muslim theologist who received his degree from Cairo's Al-Azhar University, would end the five-sided discussions.

COMMENTARY ON RECENT APPOINTMENTS TO GOVERNMENT POSTS

JN140947 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Mar 80 JN

[Unattributed commentary: "The Appointment of Nonpartisan Nationalists to Government Posts"]

[Excerpts] During the dark and humiliating reigns of past kings, princes and rulers allied with colonialism, our toiling and educated masses heard nothing but [words indistinct] suffering from the feudal regimes of a handful of selfish and tyrannical men ensconced on thrones of power.

When the Great Saur Revolution brought about a [words indistinct] change in the previous political setup, hopes flourished. However, selfish Amin wanted to mercilessly trample under his feet the hopes and aspirations that surfaced. But the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the brave army and the solidarity of peace-loving nations, particularly the Soviet Union, saved the revolution in time from the clutches of [words indistinct] and carried the Great Saur Revolution to a new stage of integration. Our people once again found [words indistinct] for their hopes and aspirations in the goals and clear plans and programs of this new stage.

Since the beginning of the new stage of the Great Saur Revolution, a large number of honest nationalists have been appointed to government posts ranging from [words indistinct] and grade two, in accordance with the progressive and revolutionary program of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, head of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, has said in [words indistinct] the state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan belongs to the entire Afghan people.

Statistics indicate that with the purpose of mobilizing honest nonpartisan nationalists in a broad national front, 53 out of 122 persons who have been appointed to government posts since the beginning of the new stage of the revolution are not party members. Entrusting sensitive government posts to nonpartisan nationalists indicates that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan trusts all citizens who love liberty and the homeland. Through a broad national front led by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, it wants to build a new Afghanistan free from [words indistinct] and based on the spirit of solidarity, fraternity and equality among all the fraternal nationalities in the country.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS APPROVES VARIOUS PROPOSALS

LD162234 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Text] At a Council of Ministers meeting last night, the following proposals by the relevant ministries were discussed and approved:

In accordance with the proposal of the Ministry of Finance, the pension fund budget of income and expenses for 1980-81 of 675,523,206 Afghanis, including some new surpluses in the organization and budget of that ministry, was approved.

According to a proposal by the Ministry of Mines and Industries, the purchase of spare parts from the USSR for the MAZ trucks and bulldozers, needed by the chemical fertilizer factory of Mazar-e Sharif, at the price of \$8,900 was approved.

According to the proposal made by the academy of sciences of the Prime Ministry, the scientific agreement between the academy of sciences of Afghanistan and the academy of sciences of Poland, which was signed some time ago, was approved.

According to a proposal by the Ministry of Public Works, the program of works and projects for the cooperative for the provision of housing in accordance with the plan and program prepared by the Institute of Towns and Housing was approved.

A source at the cooperative for the provision of housing said to the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reporter that the residential housing project, which includes 4230 apartments, is planned for an area of 370 jeribs [2 jeribs equal 1 acre] in the third district of Karta-e Parwan, by the Institute of Towns and Housing with the cooperation of other institutions. The planning of this project has been carried out with the creative talents of Afghan architects and engineers. This project is one of the largest housing projects of the country which will include every modern facility found in modern cities, affecting the water supply, irrigation, electricity, central heating, important social institutions, education, culture, mosques, administration, medicine, commerce and recreation.

The construction work on the first stage of this project, which consists of 3,200 apartments, will begin in 1980-81 and will be completed by the end of the country's first 5-year social and economic development plan. The apartments will be constructed as three, four, and five-story concrete buildings. In accordance with regulations on distribution of these apartments, 20 percent of the price of each apartment will be paid in advance by the customer to the housing cooperative and the remainder will be paid in installment payments over 20 years.

CABINET DISCUSSES 1980 BUDGET 15 MARCH

GF161740 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Mar 80 GF

[Text] The cabinet met at the Revolutionary Council headquarters last night under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Revolutionary Council chairman and prime minister.

At the beginning of its session the cabinet discussed the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan's [DRA] budget for 1359 [begins 21 March 1980]. Following lengthy discussion and deliberation, the cabinet resolved: Despite the fact that our dear homeland, Afghanistan, has (faced) major financial and economic setbacks during 1358 as a result of the traitorous, subversive activities of local reactionaries, reactionaries in the region and international imperialism, and despite the policy of assassination and terrorism pursued by the butcher Hafizullah Amin, and despite the serious problems faced by our people as a result and the wide-scale imbalances that appeared in the state's financial and economic system--despite all this, the DRA Government has succeeded in preparing the state's 1359 budget on time and in submitting it for legislation. In view of the fact that the budget has been prepared without a deficit at this historic stage, it will not be necessary to obtain a loan from the Bank of Afghanistan to meet the state's revenues and public expenditures. This is an important step toward improving the country's financial situation. We will carry details of this report in a future program.

PROPERTY CONFISCATED UNDER AMIN TO BE RETURNED

LD171110 Kabul in Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 16 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Based on the historic speech on 29 December 1979 [as heard] of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDRA], president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], regarding the recovery of individual rights, the council of ministers at their meeting last night, held under the chairmanship of Babrak Karmal, approved the following:

Announcement of the Government of the DRA:

Based on the historic speech of 29 December 1979 of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDRA, Central Committee, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the DRA, along with the announcement of 18 February 1979 of the Government of the DRA, regarding the return of nationalized property and goods confiscated from our countrymen under the fascist reign of the savage Amin and his bloodthirsty band, the Ministry of Finance has given the necessary thought for the recovery and [word indistinct] of these goods and properties, and also the preparation for their return. As a result of this, it was decided to return the properties and goods registered in the books of the Ministry of Finance and other relevant offices, and the properties of those noble countrymen registered in other government organizations, which have informed the Ministry of Finance after the 18 February announcement--these properties being in fact a small proportion. Therefore the following announcement is released for the information of our dear countrymen:

1. All personal movable and immovable property confiscated after the Great Saur Revolution and registered in the registration books will be returned to the owners or their lawful heirs, based on the available documents. Those who have left the homeland and who return home and resume a normal and peaceful life within 1 month from the release of this announcement shall benefit from these promises. The movable and immovable goods of those who have left the homeland and stand on the opposite side of the national interest and well-being shall be accounted as the property of the state and shall not be returned. Those who have been truly deceived shall have their confiscated property returned if they put down their arms and return home within 1 month from the date of the release of this announcement and participate in a peaceful, normal life.

2. The property of the royal family, who have left the homeland and given up their nationality and who like their fathers and grandfathers (?are in the service of British imperialists) and the reactionary circles of Pakistan, and who are dreaming the dreams of kingdom once again, is confiscated and is made the property of the state.

INTERIOR MINISTRY REPORTS REIMPOSITION OF CURFEW IN KABUL

LD152238 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Statement by the Interior Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan:

Our honorable compatriots are aware that the country's security forces have given top priority among their duties to the preservation of public order from the barbarity and plundering of murderers and looters and the American, Pakistani, British, Chinese, Israeli and Egyptian agents, mercenaries and traitors to the homeland.

In order to attain this, greater restrictions have been imposed (?once again) in Kabul. As we have already announced several times, it is hereby announced again that the country's security forces are in full control of the situation and are uprooting these alien spies and traitors to the homeland one after the other. Hence, for the sake of the comfort of the esteemed citizens of Kabul, once again (?these restrictions) are being reduced; night curfew hours begin at 2200 and end at 0430.

Demonstrators Released

BK151431 Hong Kong APP in English 1402 GMT 15 Mar 80 HK

[Text] New Delhi, 15 Mar, (AFP)--The Soviet-backed Babrak Karmal government has so far released 1078 prisoners, taken into custody during the February 21-22 mass uprisings, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said in a dispatch from Kabul. The prisoners were set free after being screened by a commission sent by the government to scan each and every case, PTI said.

PTI quoted the government owned newspaper KABUL TIMES and said that the prisoners admitted that they took part in the anti-Soviet demonstrations after "being deceived by anti-revolutionary forces." PTI refused to hazard a guess on total number of Afghans in prison, but said "this (the release of 1,078 prisoners) would appear to place the total arrests made at a very high number."

WFDL DELEGATION LEAVES KABUL 13 MAR; CUBAN AMBASSADOR ARRIVES

JN141755 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Mar 80 JN

[Text] The World Federation of Democratic Lawyers [WFDL] delegation left Kabul yesterday. The delegation was received in Kabul by Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Afghanistan People's Democratic Party Central Committee, head of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The delegation also held talks with government and party officials. The WFDL delegation arrived in Afghanistan led by (Hal Kurunto), secretary general of Finland lawyers [title as heard].

Karmal Receives Ambassador

LD161538 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reported that Babrak Karmal, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, received His Excellency Raul Garcia Pelaez, ambassador of the Cuban Republic in Kabul, for a courtesy call at the Revolutionary Council headquarters at 1600 today.

AFGHAN ATROCITIES UNDER PRO-SOVIET REGIMES DENOUNCED

LD171045 Paris LE MATIN in French 14 Mar 80 p 11 LD

[F.G.-G. report: "Afghanistan: Latest Fighting Claimed 7,000 Victims"]

[Text] Afghan refugees committee chairman, Dr Rassoul, yesterday denounced at a press conference in Paris the atrocities allegedly committed by the successive pro-Soviet regimes in power in Kabul since April 1978: 300,000 executions under Taraki, Amin and Karmal, 10,000 wounded undergoing treatment in Pakistani hospitals, tens of thousands of people killed by Soviet bombings and an estimated 650,000 Afghan refugees in Pakistan. He stated that 3,000 guerrillas have been confronting a Russian division, 200 tanks and 200 MiGs and Mi-24 helicopters at Shmar (20 km north of Jalalabad) since 3 March. The latest fighting has allegedly claimed 7,000 victims.

In addition, over 300 women and children were reportedly drowned in the Konar River 4 March while fleeing from the villages of Sheva and Shegi. Mike Barry, who is investigating for the International Human Rights Federation, reports to us the massive use of fragmentation and tear-gas bombs [bombes a billes, de gaz lacrymogenes], causing inflammation of the skin and unconsciousness.

The Afghan resistance committee has invited [PCF Secretary General] Georges Marchais to visit the Afghan refugee camps in order to inform the French Communists that these camps are being used not as a base for the freedom fighters but as shelter for the thousands of civilians who have fled from their country.

It proposes the setting up of an "impartial international committee of inquiry under the auspices of Amnesty International, comprising observers from all countries."

REBEL SOURCES CLAIM 120 SOVIET TROOPS KILLED NEAR KABUL

TA160548 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 16 Mar 80 TA

[Text] From Afghan rebel sources in neighboring Pakistan have come more claims of Soviet losses in the fighting in Afghanistan. The latest reports says that 120 Soviet troops were killed in clashes at a tank base 3 miles from the capital. Rebel losses were not announced.

ISLAMIC PARTY LEADER: REAL BATTLE HAS NOT STARTED

NC171058 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0915 GMT 17 Mar 80 NC

[Text] (Peshawar), 17 March--Afghan Islamic Party leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar has stated that the real battle between the Muslim rebels and the communist forces has not started yet and that the coming spring months will witness heated battles between the two sides. The Afghan leader said that fierce battles are now raging in four areas under the control of the rebels. These four areas are Takhar, Qonduz, (Fing Har) and (?Baghlan). The lackey forces, he said, are trying to recapture these areas. He added that during these battles the rebels captured large quantities of Russian arms, including helicopters and tanks.

In an exclusive statement to MENA, Gulbuddin said that the Soviets are the main source of arms for the rebels. They send the arms to strike the rebel forces so the Muslim forces capture them, he added. He said that many of the unit commanders in the forces of the lackey government in Kabul are joining the rebels with all their units and weapons. He said the armed groups that have joined the Islamic Party add up to 10,000 armed men.

He confirmed that the Soviets are continuing to strengthen and reinforce their positions and that they are not thinking of leaving, as reported by some. He emphasized that the rebels will continue their resistance.

In his statement to MENA, the Afghan Islamic Party leader stressed that the Afghan people, who have sacrificed 120,000 martyrs in addition to 100,000 detainees and half a million refugees, will never surrender. He also affirmed that the Islamic movement will not be subdued by military intervention and that the Soviets will never be able to check this movement, which the Afghan people have chosen as their way to martyrdom. The Afghan people, he added, have had much experience in 20 years of war with the agent regimes and lately with the Soviets.

Speaking about the Islamic Party's relations with the Islamic states, he said that the Afghan resistance is considered an Islamic revolution and as such belongs to the Muslim people. The Afghan people, he said, will continue their struggle and rely on their own resources as well as on aid from Muslim nations. In conclusion, he said that the Islamic Party, which was founded in 1968, provides shelter for the refugees and builds schools and hospitals, in addition to its armed struggle.

BANGLADESH

MINISTER APPEALS TO STRIKERS TO RETURN TO WORK

BK141646 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Minister for Establishment Majidul Haq has appealed to the striking class 3 and class 4 employees to resume their duties from tomorrow. Speaking at a news conference in the Jatiya Sangsad Bhanan [parliament house] this evening, the minister said if they fail to join tomorrow, the government will be compelled to take necessary action under the government service rules. He made it clear that the government is determined to strictly abide by the government rules in this regard.

Asked about the situation in the government offices following their abstention from duty today, the minister said offices outside the secretariat had not been badly affected.

Strike Enters Second Day

BK151625 Hong Kong AFP in English 1031 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Dacca, March 15 (AFP)--Strike by non-gazetted government employees, including secretarial staff, continued for the second day today and a senior officer in Dacca's central secretariat said the situation had deteriorated with more employees joining the strike.

The strikers numbering about 500,000 who stopped work from yesterday pressing their 15-point charter of demands had ignored an appeal by a minister yesterday to return to work by today. Otherwise, he warned that legal action would be taken against them. He admitted that about 80 percent employees were on strike.

Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman last night, however, said in Parliament that the strike had not created any serious crisis. An adjournment motion moved by an opposition member on the strike was later disallowed in the house.

Meanwhile, government drivers yesterday threatened to join the strike if their demands were not accepted within 72 hours. The demands included withdrawal of a government ordinance tightening discipline among employees, allowing trade union rights to government employees and annulment of an official decision for retrenchment of ten percent employees in government offices.

Striking Employees 'Charge-Sheeted'

BK151726 Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[Text] The government today charge-sheeted over 300 nongazetted government employees of different ministries and directorates for absenting themselves from duty unauthorizedly. A handout issued in Dacca tonight says the action follows expiry today of the time limit allowed to the striking non-gazetted employees by Minister for Establishment Majidul Haq.

It said the charges brought against them under the government servants special provisions ordinance of 1979 will lead to their dismissal from service.

ARMS SURRENDERED UNDER AMNESTY DECLARATION

BK150959 Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 14 Mar 80 BK

[Text] A substantial number of arms and ammunition were deposited in banks and other places in Dacca and Chittagong during the first 2 days of amnesty declared by the government for surrender of unauthorized arms and ammunition. According to official sources, the deposited arms and ammunition include 24 firearms, 8 grenades, 13 magazines, 2 bayonets and 1 [words indistinct] mine and 156 rounds of ammunition of different types. Everyone who deposited arms were paid cash awards according to the prescribed rules announced earlier.

MINISTER RETURNS FROM JIDDAH, REPORTS SAUDI AID PLEDGE

BK170501 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 17 Mar 80 BK

[Text] The Bangladesh-Saudi Arabia joint commission has reviewed the existing bilateral relations including economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. In its first meeting held in Jiddah last week, the joint commission set up last year also discussed the possibility of Saudi assistance for the implementation of the second 5-year plan.

Finance Minister Dr M.N. Huda led the Bangladesh side at the meeting while Saudi Finance Minister Shaykh Aba al-Khayl led his country's side.

Talking to newsmen on his return to Dacca from Jiddah yesterday, Dr Huda said in the meeting he had informed the Saudi side of the requirements of Bangladesh during the second 5-year plan. Replying to a question, the finance minister said Saudi Arabia has so far given about \$220 million to Bangladesh. It has also pledged Bangladesh another \$220 million.

INDIA

AMBASSADOR TEJA INFORMS GANDHI ON AFGHAN SITUATION

BK141638 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 14 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan Dr J.S. Teja called on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi today and apprised her of the recent developments in that country. Dr Teja told an All India Radio correspondent that before coming to New Delhi he met President Karmal and other Afghan leaders. Dr Teja said that India would continue her efforts to defuse the tension in Afghanistan in the interest of the countries of the region.

Efforts To Resolve Afghan Crisis

BK160827 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK

[Text] President Sanjiva Reddy has said that India is making every effort to ease the tension between the major powers and to resolve the Afghanistan crisis. He was speaking at a public meeting in Cuddapah. Stressing the need for maintaining peace in view of the deepening crisis in the world, he said the third world war should be avoided as its effects will have an impact on India. He said India's efforts to ease the tension were praised by the French president during his recent visit to India.

Referring to the situation in Assam, the president appealed to the people of the state to exercise self-restraint to help maintain national integration.

Soviet Envoy's Statement

BK161651 Hong Kong AFP in English 1644 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 16 Mar (AFP)--India could play a vital role in resolving the Afghan problem, Soviet Ambassador Yuliy Vorontsov said today. He further said that Pakistan should cooperate and help defuse the present situation in the region.

Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency quoted him as saying at a press conference at Ludhiana, northern India, that the Soviet Union was opposed to U.S. arming of Pakistan. Mr Vorontsov maintained that the Soviet troops were sent to Afghanistan only to establish peace in the area where the situation had been getting tense much earlier than in Afghanistan itself.

He also referred to Iran in this context and said that the U.S. efforts to enlarge its sphere of influence was the cause of tension in the region.

Initiative on Afghanistan Welcomed

BK151617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan [Pakistan Northwest Frontier Provinces leader] has welcomed India's initiative to solve the Afghan problem. He expressed the view that Mrs Gandhi's initiative will help and this problem can be solved by her and her alone. He said if the United Nations and America and other countries will guarantee that Pakistan will not attack Afghanistan, then the Soviet Union will leave.

Badshah Khan is lying ill in Kabul's military hospital for the past week. He has expressed a desire to visit India for treatment. The Indian Embassy in Kabul has moved Pakistan to endorse his passport for India.

NO U.S. MESSAGE ON NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, TARAPORE FUEL

BK151302 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Mar 79 BK

[Text] A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said in New Delhi today that India has not received any specific message from the United States asking assurances that this country will not produce nuclear explosives before Washington decides on shipping nuclear fuel for the Tarapore reactor. The spokesman was commenting on reported observations by the spokesman of the U.S. State Department on the prime minister's statement in Parliament on Thursday [31 March] regarding nuclear explosions.

It was pointed out by the spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry that Mrs Gandhi has clearly stated India's commitment to utilize atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Whether India will have explosions or implosions for the country's development and other peaceful purposes will be decided in view the national interest.

Additional Comments on Assurances

BK151601 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1529 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[Text] In REUTER dispatch received by us on March 14. The United States has asked India for assurances that India will not produce nuclear explosives before Washington decided on shipping U.S. nuclear fuel for use in the Tarapore reactor. Tom Reston, State Department spokesman, is reported to have said that the United States has urged India to continue to adhere to its stated policy of nuclear research and development strictly for non explosive purposes. He added that the United States will take these factors into account in taking a decision on the pending licences for shipment of nuclear fuel to Tarapore. Reston has made these comments on the Indian prime minister's statement in Parliament on March 13 on nuclear policy.

Replying to queries on Reston's statement, the official spokesman has stated the following on 15 March. Discussions for the supply of fuel for the Tarapore reactor have been going on with the United States for several months. India's policy regarding nuclear energy has been clearly stated by the prime minister on March 13 in Parliament in which she said "the Government of India remains committed to its policy of utilizing atomic energy for peaceful purposes." He clarified that "the utilization of the nuclear energy for peaceful purposes covers nuclear experiments which may include explosions or implosions." Our prime minister in her statement in Parliament mentioned above has said "we remain committed to the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes."

"We have to have explosions or implosions, whatever is necessary for our development and other peaceful purposes. This will be done in the national interest." He added that the "Government of India has not received any specific messages from the United States of the type indicated by Reston in the last few days. If there is any suggestion or communication of this type, it will be given appropriate consideration by the government. However, as far as the question of supply of nuclear fuel to Tarapore reactor is concerned, it is governed by bilateral agreements and contractual obligations between the two countries and we (India) hope that the United States will continue to stand by its contractual obligations.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER RAO ARRIVES IN PARIS

For coverage of External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao's visit to Paris, see the France section of the 17 March Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

IRAQ TO SUPPLY 6 MILLION TONS OF CRUDE OIL

BK160905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Iraq will supply 6 million tons of crude and 500,000 tons of kerosene to India this year. This is a part of its policy to assist India to meet its present needs. This was disclosed by Iraqi Ambassador in India Jihad Karam in a message sent on the occasion of the 8-day Indian exhibition on engineering and chemicals beginning in Baghdad on Friday. Mr Karam said India is emerging as the largest importer of Iraq's non-oil products.

In his message President Sanjiva Reddy has described Iraq as one of India's major trade partners and said that India and Iraq have close and friendly relations. External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao said recent years have witnessed the consolidation and expansion of India-Iraqi ties into a multi-faceted relationship based on close political and economic cooperation. Commerce Minister Pranab Mukerjee has said that existing commercial relations between the two countries will be diversified.

ASSISTANCE TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES NOTED

BK160900 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Bhutan is to get over 415 million rupees assistance from India for various development projects in the coming financial year. The [Indian] budget estimates for 1980-81 also provides an assistance of 352.5 million to Nepal. This includes India's assistance of 190 million rupees for the (Chukha) hydroelectric project.

Besides these, India will also provide about 85 million rupees to developing nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America. The aid is provided under Indian technical and economic cooperation program. The countries benefitted under the scheme include Afghanistan, Burma, Laos, Liberia, Mauritius, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Vietnam, Yemen and Seychelles. Under the program India will give services of experts, training facilities and machinery and other capital equipment. India will also help in conducting surveys of specific projects and improve medical facilities in these countries.

NEPAL'S PARTICIPATION IN GANGES TALKS OPPOSED

BK170944 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 17 Mar 80 BK

[Text] It has been made clear that differences between India and Bangladesh on augmenting the flow of the Ganges water should be resolved bilaterally within the agreement of 1977. Energy and irrigation minister, Ghani Khan Chaudhury, replying to questions in the Rajya Sabha today, said that India cannot accept the Bangladesh proposal for participation of Nepal in this matter. He said at the meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission, held in New Delhi last month, Bangladesh had persisted that Nepal should be associated in resolving this issue.

Answering a supplementary, Chaudhury said that he is not aware of any secret note sent by former deputy prime minister, Jagjivan Ram, to Bangladesh granting concessions to that country in the Ganges water dispute.

PAKISTAN

HAQ ADDRESSES WORLD CONFERENCE ON MUSLIM EDUCATION

BK151323 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said some important changes were being contemplated by him and these would be announced in a few day's time. Talking to newsmen in Islamabad this morning, he did not elaborate on the expected changes but said it would not be possible to reform the cabinet by the end of this month as announced by him in Lahore a few days ago. He said it was also not possible to set up the advisory council by then.

The president, however, said efforts are being made to find a better way to fill the political vacuum, which, according to some people, exists today. Asked about the possibility of politicians extending cooperation to his government, the president said: I hope I will get their cooperation.

Earlier, the president opened the second world conference on Muslim education in Islamabad this morning. The 6-day conference is jointly sponsored by King 'Abd al-'Aziz University and Qaid-e Azam University. The conference, being attended by about 80 eminent Muslim scholars, is aimed at evolving an Islamic concept of education and recommending changes in curricula in educational institutions of Muslim countries.

In his opening address, President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq called for the adoption of such a system of Islamic education as would promote the unity and integration of the Muslim community. He proposed that a joint four-point plan of action be prepared by Muslim countries to remove illiteracy and to produce individuals whose thinking and actions are in accordance with the holy Koran and the teachings of the Prophet. But the plan, he said, must also insure that the students receive scientific and technical education to meet the needs of the modern age.

At the same time, efforts should be made to achieve consistency and uniformity in the educational systems and curricula prevailing in Islamic countries. The president said in order to remove contradictions between the Western system of education and the religious institutions, it was necessary to introduce Islamic education in our modern institutions while including science, mathematics, medicine and other subjects.

At the same time, he said those receiving religious education should also learn modern science. In Pakistan, he said, all the necessary factors have been kept in view while forming the new educational policy. The president hoped therefore, that Qaid-e-Azam University would set up an institute of audio-engineering so that Islamic laws, science and technology could be studied together. He said review of textbooks is being undertaken. The government has formed a committee to review the curricula of the religious institutions and it has already submitted a plan of action.

In his welcoming address, Federal Minister for Education Mohammad Ali Khan of Hoti said the new education policy stresses Islamic values.

In his speech, president of the King 'Abd al-'Aziz University Dr (Abdullah Umar Nasir), called for the setting up of a world center for Islamic education. He said the third conference in the series would be held in Bangladesh next year.

HAQ: SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO BE ANNOUNCED 'IN A FEW DAYS'

BK150820 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that some significant changes are being considered which will be announced in a few days. Talking to newsmen in Islamabad this morning he did not elaborate the desired changes. He said, however, it will not be possible to reconstitute the cabinet by 23 March.

The president said some people think there is a political vacuum in the country. That is why we are trying to adopt better (?ways) to fill this political vacuum. We expect to secure the cooperation of political leaders in this respect.

FRANCE WILLING TO SUPPLY MORE MIRAGE III-E JETS

BK170351 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Mar 80 BK

[Text] France has shown willingness to supply 18 Mirage III-E jets to Pakistan. According to UNITED NEWS OF INDIA, the French offer was conveyed to Pakistan during the visit of French Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Olivier Stirn to Islamabad last month. Pakistan has already ordered 32 Mirage fighter aircraft worth \$330 million.